



Mkogisos / February 2017

Top Photo: American White Pelicans and Gulls at Keystone Dam eagle nest site west of Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Tribal election candidates certified for 2017



Offices of chairman, districts 1-4 and annual tribal budget set for June 24 vote.

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CPN-SGU Tribal Scholarship update



Tesia Zientek provides an update on the CPN-SGU scholarship one year into its implementation.

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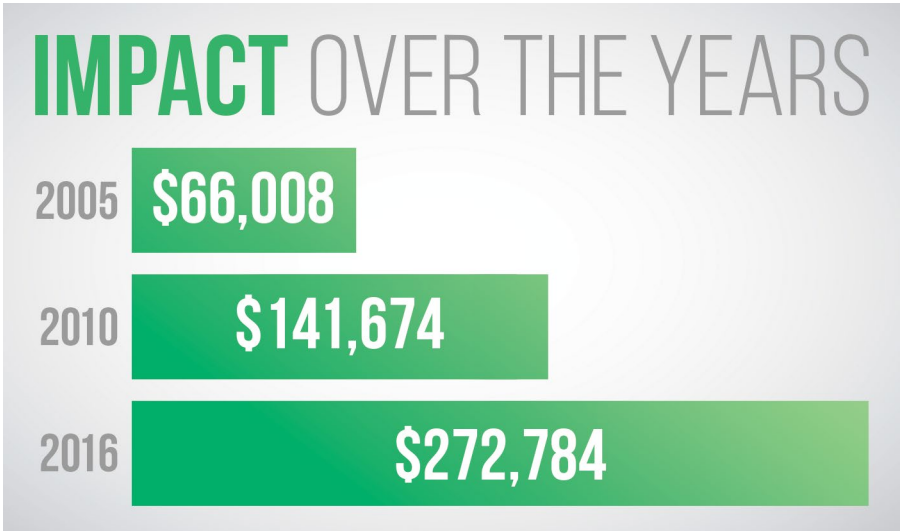
Tribal car tag fee donations add \$1.7 million for Oklahoma schools

A severe budget shortfall that is impacting classrooms around the state means that dollars going directly into the classroom are even more important. Programs like the Citizen Potawatomi Nation tribal car tags give schools a reliable boost in funding. Since CPN first began issuing car tags in 2005, \$1.7 million in funds has been sent to Oklahoma schools. Collected from fees on sales and registrations of tribal automobile vehicle license plates, CPN allows tag holders to designate a specific school in Oklahoma that their fees will be donated to each year. In the most recent fiscal year, the tribe’s donations of car tag fees to Oklahoma schools exceeded \$272,000.

“People just love this program,” said CPN Tribal Tag Agency Director Cheryl Tainpeah. “They like how they can send it not to just schools where they live, but to any one they choose.”

All Oklahoma schools, whether private or public, are eligible for the donations collected from tribal tag fees between May through April each year. Only donations to higher education institutions are not allowed under the program guidelines.

When tribal members first come to register their license plates at the tag agency, one option in the paperwork they fill out allows for them



to choose a school that will receive the donation. Each time their tag is renewed, that school receives a portion of the fees that are donated on an annual basis. Tribal members can change their desired school by filling out new registration paperwork at the CPN Tribal Tag Agency.

Though the funds go to individual schools, the top recipients in terms of school districts in the past year were:

- Shawnee: \$17,811
- Moore: \$13,684
- Tecumseh: \$11,648
- Norman: \$10,811
- Edmond: \$10,268

To register a vehicle you must be an Oklahoma resident and a Citizen Potawatomi Nation Tribal member. In order to register a vehicle, ap-

pointments are mandatory, and can be made by calling the CPN Tag Agency at 1-800-880-9880. No appointments are required to renew your CPN Tag. Renewals can be done by mail or in person but owners must provide their CPN tag number and current Oklahoma insurance verification with payment.

Tribal tags are offered for automobiles, motorcycles, farm vehicles, RVs, travel and utility trailers, ATVs and off-road motorcycles as well as black tags that have a non-use decal.

For veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces, there is a special CPN Veteran Tag available.

To learn more, visit <http://cpn.news/tagoffice> or call 1-800-880-9880.

CPN member Baylee Ogle crowned Miss Oklahoma Teen USA

On December 18, 2016 tribal member Baylee Ogle was crowned Miss Oklahoma Teen USA 2017 at the Grand Casino Hotel and Resort. Ogle topped 46 competitors from across the state and will go on to compete at the national Miss Teen USA 2017 in the summer.

Ogle is a freshman at the University of Oklahoma and is a sorority member of Alpha Chi Omega. Additionally she serves as a member of the university’s Disability Inclusion and Awareness Group, which she attributes to her passion for helping others. She enjoys volunteering at Make Promises Happen, a camp for individuals with special needs, as well as the charitable movement Warriors for Ross and other volunteer organizations in her communities.

During Baylee’s year as Miss Oklahoma Teen USA, she plans to bring awareness to disability accessibility



Baylee Ogle - Photo by Laurel Austin Studio.

and the daily struggles faced by the disabled and their families. Her late father, Eddie Ogle, battled ALS – or Lou Gehrig’s Disease - until his death in January 2016. She and her family experienced firsthand the trials and tribulations of disease and disability

such as not being able to sit together as a family at sporting events, movies or travel when hotels, restrooms and restaurants claimed to be handicap accessible when they truly were not.

Ogle assisted her mother in helping feed, bathe, change and lift her 45-year-old father and military veteran in and out of bed. Because of these experiences, she said she has become extremely passionate about teaching others to have compassion for the disabled. She hopes to bring light to the situation through a program she developed called “Where There’s a Wheel, There’s a Way”.

To follow more about Ogle’s year as Miss Oklahoma Teen USA you can follow her on Facebook at www.facebook.com/MissOklahomaTeenUSA or on Instagram and Twitter: @MissOkTeenUSA.

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Tribal election candidates certified

Each year the Citizen Potawatomi Nation's tribal legislature holds elections for seats in the tribal legislature. Legislative terms are staggered, meaning a certain number of seats are always on the ballot while a wholesale turnover of elected representatives is impossible, keeping continuity and institutional knowledge in the tribe's elected government body.

This year, the offices of chairman and legislative districts 1-4 are on the ballot. Incumbent John "Rocky" Barrett will face challenger Steve Castaneda for the tribe's highest executive office. The offices of vice-chairman and secretary-treasurer along with that of the chairman have seats in the 16-person legislative body.

District 1 consists of the northeast sections of the United States, where incumbent Roy Slavin looks to be reelected to another four year term after no opposition registered to run.

In District 2, incumbent Eva Marie Carney also will serve another four year term in office where she oversees the activities and interests of Citizen Potawatomi living in the



The tribal Election Day will take place June 24, 2017 at Family Festival.

southeast United States. No opponents registered for the District 2 race.

District 3, which encompasses eastern Texas and the major metropolitan areas of Dallas-Ft. Worth, Houston, Austin and San Antonio will have a competitive race this year. Incumbent Robert Whistler will seek another

four year term in a race against Jahn Eric Humphreys.

For all Kansans in the Citizen Potawatomi nation, District 4 will also feature a competitive race as incumbent Jon Boursaw seeks to retain his seat against former tribal legislator Theresa Adame. Boursaw narrowly defeated Adame in the 2013 election.

Also on the ballot at this year's elections will be the annual tribal budget, which must be approved by a majority of voters.

For the budget and chairman votes, all Citizen Potawatomi of voting age can cast a ballot. In the legislative district races, only those Citizen Potawatomi of voting age living in the respective districts can cast a ballot for those offices.

Voting can be done in person on June 24 at the annual CPN Family Reunion Festival. Absentee ballot request forms will be mailed out in the spring by the CPN Election Committee to addresses provided by the CPN Tribal Rolls Department. CPN members are encouraged to contact tribal rolls as soon as possible to update their address information in order to receive a ballot request form.

Further information about the candidates and races to take place at this year's tribal Election Day on June 24 will be in upcoming editions of the *Hownikan*.

Oklahoma Potawatomi can't rely on Tribal ID cards after state-issued IDs fall out of compliance

The Real ID is a coordinated effort between state and federal governments to provide reliable state-issued identification documents that will curb the use of fraudulent IDs by terrorists. The law, passed by the U.S. Congress in 2005, was drafted in the aftermath of the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

In 2007, Oklahoma passed a law that said the state would not comply with the federal statute. Critics cited concerns about how information would be stored, fearing data collected by federal authorities. Though Oklahoma ID holders have had time to apply for passports, which are an acceptable form of ID for federal authorities, time was set to run out on January 29, 2017.

Federal agencies, including those overseeing security at airports and military bases and federal courthouses, were prohibited from accepting Oklahoma-issued IDs starting on that date until a last minute extension was given by federal authorities. Oklahoma has until June 2017 to come into compliance with federal statutes.

Though entering those specific locations may not be relevant to everyone, the next step in the deadline is set to fall in January 2018, when

Oklahoma state-issued IDs will no longer be accepted for those seeking to board a commercial aircraft inside the United States.

While successive Oklahoma legislatures since 2007 have attempted to rectify the issue, they have successively failed to reach a compromise. In the 2016 legislative session, both chambers of the Oklahoma legislature passed bills that would have brought the state's IDs into compliance with federal law. Yet in inter-chamber negotiations, the wording of the two separate bills could not be agreed upon and the measures failed.

In some cases, tribal nations' IDs are accepted as valid forms of identification for the purposes of entering federal buildings or boarding an aircraft. However, for Oklahoma-based Potawatomi, this isn't the case. Though there are plans in the future to secure them, enhanced tribal identification cards are not used by Citizen Potawatomi Nation, which would make them compliant with federal standards.

CPN Tribal Rolls Director Charles Clark encourages tribal members to secure a U.S. passport if they need to board a plane or enter a federal facility.



"Any airport, even Will Rogers in Oklahoma City, will not accept a tribal ID card. Everyone is clamping down," he said.

There is another reason for Citizen Potawatomi Nation members to secure a valid U.S. passport as soon as they can. In August 2018, the Gathering of Potawatomi Nations will be hosted in Canada. To cross

the U.S.-Canadian border by air, one must have a valid U.S. passport. For those travelling by land, a passport card or a passport are both valid.

Passport applications can be made at most county courthouses in Oklahoma.

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Two CPN members working amidst challenging budget shortfall at Oklahoma state capitol in 2017

With longtime Moore, Oklahoma State Representative Paul Wesselhöft stepping down due to term limits, Senator Jason Smalley (R-Stroud) and Representative Mark McBride (R-Moore) are the only Citizen Potawatomi serving in the current legislature.

Similar to the past two sessions following the global energy price crash, of which Oklahoma's economy is so vulnerable to, this legislative session will feature another budget shortfall estimated to be around \$692 million. Yet, as Oklahoma Secretary of Finance Preston Doerflinger noted in mid-December, if the legislators follow the executive branch's suggestion to not tap into one-time funding options, the actual shortfall is likely to be \$868 million.

Smalley and McBride are not new hands in the statehouse, both having served previous terms where legislators had to balance a budget with similarly large shortfalls.

Senator Smalley will be in the thick of the debate over spending and revenue issues as chair of the Oklahoma Senate Appropriations Committee. The Peltier family member



Representative Mark McBride

represents his hometown of Stroud as well as portions of Lincoln, Pottawatomie and Seminole counties, including the communities of Bethel Acres, Tecumseh, Seminole and Prague.

McBride, who represents communities in south Oklahoma City, Moore and portions of Norman, is from the Bourassa family. He is the vice-chair of the Oklahoma House Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, which is likely to be busy as well given the recent spate of earthquakes



Senator Jason Smalley

believed to be caused by energy resource extraction techniques.

In terms of the executive branch, changes in staff there may provide some balance to the antagonistic attitudes that have prevailed towards CPN in recent years. Former Speaker of the Oklahoma House of Representatives and Secretary of State Chris Bengé, a citizen of the Cherokee Nation, has taken over for Denise Northrup as Governor Fallin's chief of staff. Well liked around the capitol, Bengé was formerly in charge of

Native American affairs in his role as secretary of state and looks set to retain that responsibility in his new position.

Legislators overseeing jurisdictions that overlap with those of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation will also be at the statehouse, including Representative Josh Cockroft (R-Wanette), whose district includes the communities of Tecumseh and most of southern Pottawatomie County. Representative Dell Kerbs (R-Shawnee) is set to take up his freshman term in the house, filling the seat formerly held by Justin Wood. A special election for Oklahoma House District 28 has been called after incumbent Tom Newell of Seminole abruptly resigned following his re-election on November 8. The district includes communities inside the tribe's jurisdiction including Maud, McLoud and portions of Shawnee and Oklahoma City, and will be largely unrepresented during the upcoming legislative session because the special election isn't until May 9, 2017.

Greg McCortney is a freshman member of the Oklahoma Senate, whose district overlaps into the CPN's jurisdictions, including the communities of Asher, St. Louis and Wanette.

Two years at new location, BDC Gun Room has become a staple of local community

Like many enterprises that make up the ever growing FireLake complex at Citizen Potawatomi Nation, the tribal member-owned BDC Gun Room stands in stark contrast to what stood in its location just a few years ago. Sitting in what was once a wheat field off Hardesty Road three quarters of a mile east of State Highway 177, the 39,000 square foot indoor range and firearms sales floor has become a gathering point for shooting sports, personal safety education and law enforcement training in Pottawatomie County.

"Like I said after our first year, all new businesses face a tough road when starting out. Though we've been here for longer, opening this big of an operation was like starting over," said owner Jack Barrett.

A former Pottawatomie County Sheriff's deputy, Barrett and his staff host numerous firearm safety training courses each month. The extensive space and two shooting ranges also provide a safe, indoor location for local law enforcement agencies to train and qualify on their service weapons.

"BDC has been great for local agencies like the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Tribal Police Department," said Tribal Chief of



Jack Barrett stands inside BDC Gun Room during the 2015 grand opening.

Police James C. Collard, Ph.D. "We, and many of our sister agencies in the community, have a safe, warm and nearby place to train and recertify on our service weapons, which is a benefit to our officers and those we protect and serve."

Those who don't carry a badge also have opportunities to learn how to safely and responsibly operate and shoot a firearm. BDC offers carry and conceal training classes, league shooting competitions for all skill levels from expert to first time shooters, and even provides instructions to local boy and girl scout troops.

"The concealed carry class is not a class on how to shoot your handgun," noted Barrett. "It is a class on how to legally carry and when you are allowed to use one in self-defense. We see people taking our 'Defensive Handgun 1' class as well as taking hourly individual instruction, so they can learn how to shoot well and gain the ability to effectively use their handgun to not just survive a lethal encounter, but to win."

Unlike many of the other businesses at FireLake, BDC Gun Room is a privately-owned commercial en-

terprise. While Barrett is a tribal member, he is owner and operator of the business. The tribe owns the property and leases it under the HEARTH Act, which allows tribal nations to determine and control leasing options on land held in trust by the United States. Because it is on trust land, BDC Gun Room pays CPN's tribal sales tax, which funds government services like road maintenance, public works and police protection operated by the tribe. To date it has paid more than \$300,000 in tribal sales tax.

Looking ahead to his third year, Barrett says that he's hoping to bring a restaurant or food service enterprise in to provide a place for patrons to grab a bite to eat before or after they shoot. Financing for a food service enterprise may be available through the Citizen Potawatomi Community Development Corporation, and those interested are encouraged to contact Barrett directly.

To learn more about BDC Gun Room, visit their location at 40960 Hardesty Rd, Shawnee, OK 74801 or visit them at www.bdcgunroom.com or at facebook.com/BDC-GunRoom.

Tribal member Carmelita Wamego Skeeter honored for service to Tulsa Indian community

For four decades, the Indian Health Care Resource Center of Tulsa has provided quality, comprehensive health care to the city's Native American people in a culturally sensitive manner. Born out of a need to serve an urban Indian population underserved by the city's existing healthcare facilities, the IHCRC has worked to eliminate health disparities and strengthen the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual wellness of those it serves. With the organization since its inception has been Carmelita Wamego Skeeter, who currently serves as chief executive officer and is a Citizen Potawatomi Nation tribal member. Skeeter was recently honored by the IHCRC for her four decades of service in building the organization into what is today.

Born in Tulsa, Skeeter was a volunteer in her church's social action group through a program called "Neighbor to Neighbor." Her participation in the program, based in north Tulsa, helped residents in need gain access to public assistance, housing and other social welfare programs. This, combined with her active participation in her two sons' school activities left little time for additional work, but Skeeter made it work. She attributes her ability to multitask to her role as the eldest of 13 siblings, a management background unto itself.

"I'm high energy," Skeeter said with a laugh.

Some of those siblings were active with a program called Indian Pupil Education, whose counselors knew of Skeeter's volunteering and organizing with the Democratic Party. They approached her about working for the Indian Health Care Resource Center to conduct a needs assessment, which would be funded by the Indian Health Service.

Harking back to her role as eldest sibling, Skeeter said the focus of healthcare issues was ingrained from a young age.

"When you're the oldest of 13 children, something's always going on. They need healthcare," she explained. "And when you're working with the poor, there's always the need for health, because if you're not healthy you can't work, you can't be mobile, you can't do anything."

Healthcare services at tribal clinics, while often free to the tribal citizen, are paid for out of allotted federal funds from the Indian Health Service, third party billing from Medicare and private insurance plans or even by



Carmelita Skeeter addressing the crowd during a cedar ceremony blessing April 15, 1998 at the groundbreaking of the IHCRC in Tulsa.

revenues from the tribal nation itself. Restrictions on funding from federal sources tied to jurisdictions mean patients seeking treatment at a tribal clinic must get to the clinic. Many of these facilities are in rural areas, far from major metropolitan areas. Skeeter's 1976 needs assessment studied this very issue. Along with her executive director at the time, Skeeter investigated why Native Americans were not using existing healthcare facilities in Tulsa, and why Native children were missing so many days of school due to illness.

After personally visiting many of these facilities to understand the reception given to Native Americans seeking care, Skeeter noticed a startling trend. When checking in for service, she was questioned about how the medical bills would be paid. Intake personnel would ask a barrage of inquiries concerning her insurance status or whether either the Indian Health Service or individual tribes would foot the bill. When Skeeter responded that she would pay for the costs of treatment, almost universally the response was for her to go to the Claremore Indian Hospital, approximately 30 miles away.

"Indians in Tulsa were either going to Claremore or Tahlequah or to Creek Nation facilities, meaning the mothers and fathers were missing days of work and kids were missing days out of school. It wasn't just a trip down there and right back. That's how we determined that Tulsa needed a clinic for Indian people."

The IHCRC hired a grant writer to help find funding resources while soliciting the federal government for money specifically for Tulsa's Indian population. Eventually they secured the volunteer services of a doctor in

Tulsa and opened a small office for half a day a week. The organization grew from there, with healthcare equipment donated from military surpluses and World Medical Relief and through contracts with the Women, Infant and Children Program at Cherokee Nation. By 1978, after years of scraping together funding and resources, the IHCRC hired a full time physician.

The organization is not funded by any one tribe, but is sustained by its own fundraising and through monies from the Indian Health Service. In 1976 the budget was \$76,000, while in 2016 that figure was approximately \$20 million. From an initial count of four personnel, today's roster of staff and health providers stands at 140.

Looking back at the challenges that the IHCRC encountered over the years, the Reagan Administration's attempt to eliminate funding for urban Indian populations stands out as a seminal moment for Skeeter. As part of President Reagan's efforts at eliminating the federal budget deficit, his administration cut funding for urban Indians. Yet area directors of the Indian Health Service realized the gap that the IHCRC and its Oklahoma City counterpart filled in the state's healthcare system, and worked with Skeeter and fellow officials there to compromise with Congress in order to save the funding. The compromise, which began as an effort to stave off a worst case scenario, developed into a significant victory for the IHCRC.

"We would be part of Indian Health Service, a non-profit and still be able to seek private funding sources," she recalled. "This was presented to Congress at the Indian Affairs Com-

mittee, they passed it and in 1986 we became part of Indian Health Service. That boosted our revenue tremendously."

The center began collecting Medicare and Medicaid at the same rate as IHS, which it had not been able to do prior. Skeeter credited that victory, and the center's continued success, on positive working relationships with the state's Congressional delegation who has advocated on the IHCRC's behalf through the decades. Like her counterparts in the private sector might also explain, despite providing expanded services to patients, the need never slows in terms of those utilizing the center.

"I don't see that getting any easier," she admitted. "We continue to have a major fundraiser once a year and continue to visit Washington D.C. to explain how desperately Indian Health Service's budget is needed, not just for our agency but for IHS nationwide. The challenges, there's no end."

Despite having been at the IHCRC for more than four decades, she said she looked ahead to tackle one continued impediment, a lack of inpatient care services. Right now the clinic can only offer outpatient services, and if specialty care is required, they can only refer them to nearby tribal clinics.

"It's been a great ride," said Skeeter. "Our success is built on collaboration, and if I feel good about anything it's that we have been able to work in conjunction with the tribes, the federal government, local government and agencies that meet needs that we can't meet."



Carmelita Wamego Skeeter

SCHOLARSHIP REMINDER!



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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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FBI, tribal police investigate shooting at Grand Casino

On January 11, 2017 two employees at the Grand Casino were involved in an incident which left both dead. The incident occurred in a non-public area of the casino administrative offices. Most employees had not yet arrived for their shift and no casino guests or other employees were endangered.

"It's important to understand that at no time during this event were any patrons of the casino or other employees at risk," said Citizen Potawatomi Nation Tribal Police Chief Jim Collard.

The FBI is now leading the investigation and will have the full cooperation of casino security and tribal police. CPN Tribal Police Chief Jim Collard called the response a textbook example of interagency cooperation.

"Being there for our partners and the community when the going is toughest is our most important mission and I am glad we were able to do our part in the aftermath of such an awful tragedy," stated FBI special agent Kathryn Peterson. "Our hearts go out to the families, friends, and coworkers

of both young men as well as all the employees of the casino and the community it serves."

[The United States Department of Labor reports that nearly 2 million American workers report having been victims of workplace violence each year.](#) This is the only instance of workplace violence at a CPN enterprise.

"This is a wonderful work environment, very mutually supportive employees. And, there is a solid contingent of counselors on board visiting

with employees who need assistance in that regard," Collard said.

Other agencies involved in the response or investigation include the McCloud Police Department, Pottawatomie County Sheriff, Oklahoma Highway Patrol, Absentee Shawnee Police, Pottawatomie County Drug Task Force, and the Pottawatomie County District Attorney.

Heritage center is more than a museum

Citizen Potawatomi Nation cut the ribbon for its first cultural heritage center in January 2006 and it has been growing, changing and adapting to challenges ever since. Before the current structure was built 11 years ago, there was a museum and gift shop at the CHC's present location, but tribal members and staff have spent years planning and learning what people want in a cultural heritage center.

"There is a difference between a museum and a cultural heritage center," CHC Director Kelli Mosteller, Ph.D., said. "We are a museum in the sense that we are here to protect, preserve and display our cultural artifacts for the public and for tribal members, but we are a cultural heritage center because of everything else that goes along with it. We are here to, not only preserve the objects themselves, but the histories, stories and family lineage behind these objects."

The heritage center is a place for people to learn about their culture and lineage, but also leave a little bit of their culture and history. A program called the Tribal Heritage Project is designed to allow people to tell stories on camera about their grandparents and the stories passed down through family histories, but also about themselves. One day, they are likely to have children and grandchildren who will be interested in learning more about what was important to them.



CHC Archivist Blake Norton works on the veteran's exhibit.

There are several departments and programs that make up the CHC, including the Potawatomi language department, tribal enrollment, Tribal Heritage Productions, grants, the Tribal Historic Preservation Office and Rekindling 7 Generations, which is an after school program for Native youth in south Pottawatomie County. The cultural resources team is made up of the gift shop, banquet facility and museum staff, including the 3D collections manager, curator, digitizing and 2D archives staff.

Mosteller told the *Hownikan* that a cultural heritage center is not only concerned with preserving things from the past, but also perpetuating the history and the story of the Potawatomi people as they move into the future.

"As a Native American tribe, without a distinct culture and our history, we lose the essence of who we are as a people," said Mosteller. "Having the CHC here to preserve and protect our history that makes us uniquely

CPN is important. Allowing members to have a home base where they can come back and get to know other tribal members gives them the opportunity to feel more connected to their tribe and its culture and carry it on to the next generation. We are proud of the strides that we've made at the CHC."

Looking toward the future, 2017 will be a big year for the heritage center staff. They have been working diligently to reimagine and reconfigure the museum floor to tell the story of the Potawatomi people.

"With hard work, community input and a few grants, we were able to put together a new exhibit that I think people are going to love," Mosteller said. "In 2017, there is going to be a mad rush of activity. Right now we are finishing two of our 11 exhibits and all exhibits will be complete by our anniversary next year – January 6, 2018."

Tribal members will be able to see the progress being made during Family Reunion Festival 2017 in June. At this time, heritage center staff will facilitate tours and visitors will be able to view a traveling exhibit featuring Native American veterans from the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian. For more information, please visit www.potawatomiheritage.org.



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Aviary welcomes fastest bird on the planet

The thunder is talking at the CPN Eagle Aviary, which is now home to a peregrine falcon. Tomo Yake which means “thunder” in Comanche, is an adult, female peregrine falcon, a species that is the fastest bird in the world and can fly more than 200 miles per hour. She has a wonderfully loud voice, hence her name which is directly translated as “Heaven is talking.”

“All of the kids in school know about the falcon and specifically the peregrine because it’s the fastest bird on the planet,” CPN Eagle Aviary Manager Jennifer Randell said. “It never fails. Kids think the eagles are really cool but they always ask if we have a peregrine. It’s something the kids learn about in science class.”

Tomo Yake came from Sia: The Comanche Nation Ethno-Ornithological Initiative, where Randell and Aviary Assistant Manager Bree Dunham spent most of their time training. She was one of the first birds they worked with when they got to Sia in 2008. She is a fully flighted adult and the staff would like to get her to the point where they can call her to the glove and do indoor flight presentations.



Tomo Yake means “thunder” in Comanche.

Tomo Yake was bred to be an education bird, so she has never lived in the wild. She spent much of her life being glove trained and traveling to educational and conservational opportunities around the country with trainers at Sia.

“It’s nice to have a smaller bird of prey for people to see,” Dunham said. “One thing we have learned is that people are afraid of birds. You

go into a classroom setting and the golden eagle scares some of the kids because it’s so large. The peregrine is vocal and a little more keyed up. That’s just how she’s wired.”

The falcon’s speed is what sets her apart from other birds of prey. Tomo Yake doesn’t do anything slowly.

“When we feed her, she catches food mid-air. She also out-thinks us,” Randell said. “By the time I have

one thought, she is already ten steps ahead of me.”

As the weather begins to cool off, aviary employees will begin glove-training birds more often. When the temperature exceeds 80 degrees it is best not to train birds on the glove because it’s stressful for them to learn new things and may cause them to overheat. The aviary staff does not think it will take long for Tomo Yake to be comfortable enough to do public educational presentations again, since she has been trained for most of her life.

Randell and Dunham talk about the importance of culture and conservation when they take birds for presentations. They deem it important to talk to young people about how to treat these beautiful creatures.

“She’s already on an education permit, but we want to make sure she’s comfortable,” Randell said. “There’s no danger to take her in public, but we just want to make sure she doesn’t get stressed out.”

For more information about the aviary, please visit www.potawatomi-heritage.org/#aviary.

CPCDC’s Oklahoma Indian Nations directory on sale in February

The Citizen Potawatomi Community Development Corporation has a number of missions. Whether its staff is promoting small business development in Indian Country, financing community infrastructure development in rural Oklahoma or providing credit and financial management counseling to those in need, the organization takes on a wide array of challenges.

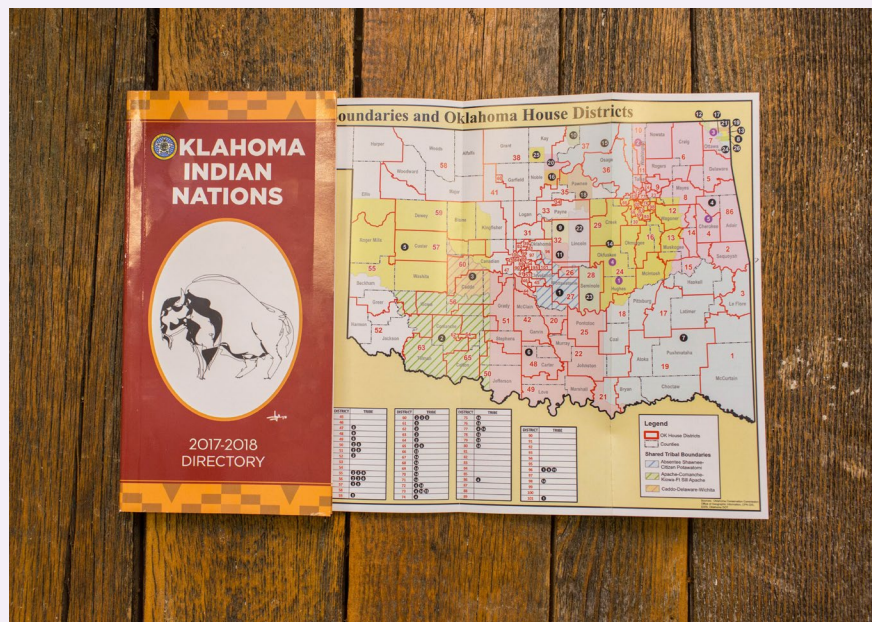
One such mission is now in its third installment, as the 2017 Oklahoma Indian Nations directory is now on sale.

The 2017 Oklahoma Indian Nations Directory contains information on all 38 of the state’s tribal leaders, jurisdictions, contact numbers and websites. There is a foldout state map indicating each tribal government’s jurisdiction as well as contact information for Oklahoma’s U.S. Congressional delegation, Oklahoma state legislators, members of the U.S. Sen-

ate Committee on Indian Affairs, officials from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, First Nations Development Institute and other groups relevant to tribes and their members.

The booklet was originally conceived by CPCDC Director Shane Jett as a replacement of a similar directory once produced by the State of Oklahoma’s now defunct Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission. From 1967-2011, the Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission, as part of its mission to facilitate dialogue between the state government and tribal governments, compiled up to date information on the state’s tribes, their leaders and jurisdictions.

“We decided to produce our own because I remembered what a tool it was for my work in the legislature,” said Jett, who served as the Oklahoma House District 27 legislator from 2004-10. “If there is legislation or issues impacting tribes and you want their input or expertise, then all you



need is this book to know who to speak to.”

The directories are available through the Citizen Potawatomi Nation’s Community Development Corporation for seven dollars, and can be ordered by visiting giftshop.

potawatomi.org or by calling 405-878-4697. Each of Oklahoma’s state and national legislative offices have been sent one, free of charge, in hopes of facilitating a better dialogue between the state’s elected representatives and tribal governments.

College-age Potawatomi, this is the program for you!

Apply by April 15

What is the PLP?

The six-week Potawatomi Leadership Program brings a group of young tribal members from around the world to Shawnee, Oklahoma to learn about the government, culture, and economic development of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

For more information, please contact CPN Education Director Tesia Zientek at tesia.zientek@potawatomi.org
To read student perspectives and apply, visit plp.potawatomi.org

Community garden update: February 2017

After three moves in the last four years, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Community Garden has found a new home for the 2017 season. Assistant Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Andrew Gourd and other CPN staff members have done the bulk of the work moving the garden from the CPN Eagle Aviary to the Sharp House this fall. With this change comes great opportunity, but also another year of getting to know the personality of the space.

“Our new community garden is steps away from a prayer circle and small pond, which is a significant cultural space. It is just as important to me to manage the area outside of the garden as the area inside of the garden,” Gourd said.

Along with Gourd, the maintenance, roads and housekeeping departments have played a large role in making this a viable space for the garden. They’ve tilled the soil, created gravel spaces for the greenhouse and constructed several buildings, shaped the grounds and collected leaves from CPN grounds to put more organic components back into the soil.

“Not only do we want to create a community garden for people to enjoy, but we also want to create a beautiful and functional space,” Gourd said. “I want to rehabilitate this piece of land and make a peaceful retreat.”

Gourd created the layout of this year’s garden to implement a variety

of projects for all volunteers, including elders and youth.

“A lot of thought goes into making it efficient, offering specific activities besides planting, harvesting and watering, like working in the greenhouse or raised beds,” said Gourd. “We needed to break up the large plot of land with raised beds and walkways, giving volunteers a more manageable space for the tasks they enjoy.”

He also consulted with several departments – like tribal youth, the [Re-kindling 7 Generations](#) tribal mentorship program and the staff from FireLake Wellness Center – to determine the best fruits and vegetables to grow in the 2017 garden. There will be the addition of fruit trees and a hoop house, which will grow native plants that will encourage pollinators and butterflies to thrive in the space.

“The monarch initiative we did with Monarch Watch, Euchee Butterfly Farm and six other tribes in Oklahoma was the most [successful program](#) we did in 2016,” said Gourd. “It included hands-on learning, [planting milkweed](#) and educational events. At the end of January, we planted more milkweed in the hoop house and are looking for more grants to expand this program. It’s a great platform to talk about the impact that we have on the environment around us.”

In February, there is still construction to be done to get ready for planting



CPN employee Andrew Gourd, tribal member Minisa Crumbo Halsey, tribal member Penny Coates, and CPN employee Lakota Pochedley gathered at the CPN community garden to discuss food sovereignty.

in April. Buildings like the greenhouse, shed, and hoop house need to be erected and raised beds need to be built. After the buildings are completed, faucets with running water and electricity will be installed. Deer in the area have created a nice walking path through the woods, so redirecting that to keep them from eating the garden’s produce is on the to-do list for the first season.

March will be the month that volunteers begin seeding in the greenhouse, which allows community members to plant and harvest produce regardless of the season, so there aren’t several hundred pieces of okra ready for harvest in a two week

window. There will be a rotation of crops and that will create a variety of projects for volunteers to help with.

“Organic gardening is always a work in progress,” Gourd said. “We will continue to grow what works for us, but we’re always trying new things, especially in our new space. Since it is a community garden, we want to give people the tools to shape the land into what they want it to be; that’s what makes it a community garden.”

If you are interested in getting involved with the 2017 community garden, please contact Gourd at (405) 878-5830.

Seven Grandfathers Teachings

Wisdom Love Respect Bravery
Honesty Humility Truth

‘Tis the season for giving, hosting and spending time with family. In Potawatomi culture, this is also the time of the year where elders gather with children and teach about how to protect creation using stories. One of these stories was about the seven grandfathers who gave the Potawatomi people seven gifts. You may find that the gifts can be used while tribal members are hosting guests from other tribes and families as well.

Wisdom [mbwakawen] was the first gift and allows people to not only obtain knowledge, but also cherish it. With an open mind, people are seeking more knowledge.

The second gift was love [debanawen]. Knowing love is knowing peace.

Respect [mnadenawen] was given so that the people would honor all creation.

Bravery [wedasewen] was the next gift, which allowed people to be fearless in face of their enemies.

Honesty [gwekwadzewen] was given to the people so they could face difficult situations with pride.

Humility [edbesendowen] came next so the people would understand their place in the midst of creation. Humans are not the center of the universe, but simply part of it.

Lastly, the gift of truth [debwewen] allowed the people to know and understand all the things that were told to them.

Along with this story, there was a warning about using these seven gifts poorly. For every characteristic listed above, there is an opposite, like selfishness or disrespect. The people were entrusted with these gifts and were urged to teach the children how to use them correctly from a very young age. As Potawatomi people, these seven characteristics should influence daily life.

CPN Veterans report: February 2017



By Daryl Talbot, Commander

Bozho,

A new year is well underway and the CPN Veterans Organization has lots of expectations for this year. I think I’m ready for the changes to come, but only time will tell.

One of the things that interest veterans, and even active-duty military, is the big question: “Why did you join?”

I remember in boot camp, my buddies and I would get together and talk about why we joined. Some said it was a family tradition. Their father, grandfather, uncles and even big brother joined, so naturally they did too. In my platoon, we had some who were given the choice of going to prison or joining the armed forces, some joined while drunk with some buddies, some were looking for travel and adventure or just change. During war time, some felt it was their

duty and some were drafted. In my time, I served with circus performers, stage entertainers, millionaires, school dropouts, college graduates, some running away from home troubles. Most found a purpose in their lives.

During war time many didn’t return home or didn’t return as the same person, especially those in combat. In peace time or war time, after military time you are never the same, usually for the better, but not always.

When we get together and talk about our experiences it is a sharing and bonding quality time with brothers and sisters in arms. You have all graduated from being a kid to a full grown veteran. Something you can be proud of. You find a greater appreciation of God, family and country. God bless us all. *Migwetch.*

Remember the CPN Veterans Organization meets on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 6 p.m. in the North Reunion Hall on the Potawatomi Powwow Grounds. All CPN veterans and their families are welcome. A meal is provided.

Elders pharmacy program offers cost savings

Rising drug costs have often been cited as a major hurdle to affordable healthcare options for Americans. The impact can be more severe than consumers simply trying to save money for when they're ill. [According to a recent article by U.S. News and World Report](#), "medical costs and out-of-pocket expenses result in high rates of bankruptcies, and 10-25 percent of patients either delay, abandon or compromise treatments because of financial constraints."

At Citizen Potawatomi Nation, leaders in the tribal government, CPN Health Services and the office of self-governance have developed a program that offers some assistance in the face of these rising costs. Often, rising drug costs are borne more heavily by elders, who often live on fixed incomes and are either retired or unable to work.

For CPN tribal members 63 years of age or older as well as CPN members on Social Security disability, the tribal mail order pharmacy program alleviates some burdens of paying for these drugs. It pays for certain medications at no cost to the patients and is currently available to beneficiaries residing in all 50 states and several foreign countries and U.S. protectorates.



CPN Pharmacy Coordinator Joe LaReau, DPh.

The program, nearing its second decade of existence, originally operated as a part of the CPN Health Services Pharmacy. Increasing participation in the program forced the separation of the two, and for the last decade the mail order pharmacy has been on its own, funded by third party collections such as Medicare, Medicaid and private insurance. As part of the tribe's efforts to extend health-related services to all members regardless of location, beneficiaries have personal access to the mail order pharmacist via telephone or email on business

days, resulting in compliance with medication therapy plans from medical providers.

In 2015, the program served 924 CPN patients and issued more than 20,000 prescriptions. The cost of these services totaled more than \$913,000.

Separate from the mail order pharmacy program, CPN Health Services operate two different, more traditional pharmacies, one at the CPN Health Clinic West and another at the CPN Health Clinic East. Though these op-

erations more closely resemble what an average, private sector pharmacy would look like, they have their own unique operating circumstances.

"The two clinic pharmacies, and clinics, are funded by the Indian Health Service," explained longtime CPN Pharmacy Coordinator Joe LaReau, DPh. "The challenge for the clinics and the pharmacies is to offer the best services possible to our patients and pharmacy recipients with the funding we have available to us and to look ahead to our needs and stay within our yearly budgets."

While the mail order pharmacy is restricted to only Citizen Potawatomi above the age of 63 or on Social Security disability, the main pharmacies inside the health clinics serve tribal members, employees and members of federally recognized tribes receiving treatment at CPN clinics.

To learn more about the services available at the CPN Health Services Pharmacies or CPN Mail Order Pharmacy Program, visit www.potawatomi.org/services/health/clinics or call 866-900-5236.

Q&A with CPN Health Services' Destiny R. Mitchell

Along with expanding services for Native Americans, tribal employees and non-Native spouses of CPN tribal members, the staff at CPN Health Services seems to be in a continuing state of expansion just to keep up with demand. Amongst the newest health providers to join the ranks at the clinics is Citizen Potawatomi Nation tribal member Destiny R. Mitchell, descendant of the Bruno family and nurse practitioner.

Where is your hometown?

"I was born and raised in Shawnee and attended Shawnee High School. I currently reside in Tecumseh."

Where did you go to college and nursing school?

"I attended Seminole State College for my ADN, Oklahoma Wesleyan for my BSN and Graceland University out of Lamoni, Iowa for my Master of Science in Nursing."

What made you want to go into the medical profession?

"It was one of those situations where things just fell into place and I was urged to go into nursing

by my father. When I was a senior in high school, my father had a heart attack and the nurse that took care of him made such an impression on him that he urged me to look into nursing.

"A couple of years later I began to date a man who is now my husband. It just so happened he turned out to be the son of the nurse who took care of my father when I was in high school."

What did you do before you came to CPN Health Services?

"Since 2003 I worked in Shawnee and Midwest City as an RN in various departments, my favorite being OR and ICU. I also taught and supervised clinical rotations for nursing students at Gordon Cooper Technology Center. As a nurse practitioner I started out working at Mercy Primary Care Clinic in Stratford, Oklahoma. I worked at Mercy before coming here."

How did you end up here?

"I have been a patient with CPNHS for as long as I can remember and live locally so I had always kept an eye out for an opening here... again, things just fell into place and an opportunity became available for me to become part of the team at CPNHS



Destiny R. Mitchell

as a float provider. I feel blessed to be here. "

What's an average day like for you at the clinic in terms of seeing patients?

"I see patients for a variety of acute and chronic reasons. I am the float provider for both east and west

clinics, depending on where I am needed my schedule is subject to change, but I am happy to see any patient that comes my way. I have enjoyed the patients and my co-workers, they make it easy to do my job no matter where I am scheduled that day."

Thomas' PLP experience follows her around the globe

Megan Thomas – a member of the Melot family – was a participant of the Potawatomi Leadership Program in 2006 and returned as an intern for the public information department in 2007. In 2010, Thomas received bachelors' degrees in English literature and journalism and mass communications from Arizona State University and went on to complete a Master's of Arts in global business journalism in 2013 from Tsinghua University in China.

Thomas spoke with the *Hownikan* about how the PLP and the subsequent experiences with Citizen Potawatomi Nation impacted her life and her career in journalism.

What made you want to participate in the PLP?

"Growing up in Arizona, I was always proud of my heritage but wished I knew more about my history and culture. We lived far from Shawnee, Oklahoma, so I did not have as many opportunities to participate in tribal ceremonies or events. I really wanted to better understand my tribe and give back to it however I could. I also knew the professional experience early on in my college career would be beneficial for my development and help me be more competitive for other professional opportunities in the future."

How did the PLP make you see the tribe differently?

"I came to better understand the daily operations of the tribe. I came to see how the economic operations of the tribe allow for its greater sustainability while helping provide housing, medical and educational support for tribal members, as well as professional opportunities for tribal members and non-tribal members alike. I learned how the tribal values were represented in the tribe's judicial system.

"I also learned more about our cultural practices and participated in traditional ceremonies including several sweats. What I had previously read and imagined about the ceremonies drastically paled in comparison to actually experiencing them.

"Overall, I came to better understand the tribe's emphasis on balance; between the new and the traditional, between the benefit of the individual and the benefit of the tribe, between the tribe and the outside world. My time in Oklahoma also helped me grow as a person. It more deeply embedded in me the importance of considering the greater whole in relation to myself and to always make sure my actions were serving others. It also taught me the vital importance of first listening and understanding. It taught me to always carry a spirit of kindness, humor, humility and gratitude."

What have you been doing since the PLP?

"After the PLP, I took the knowledge I gained to help spread understanding of Native concerns and issues. I reported on Native issues that were carried in publications throughout Arizona and participated in discussions of Native American representation and coverage in journalism. The skills and experience I gained in my internships with the tribe gave me an early edge that helped me win scholarships and internships. I worked for organizations including the Associated Press, The Arizona Republic and MSNBC. I won a Hearst Journalism Award for my reporting on the Fort Defiance Navajo Veteran's Cemetery, which was the proudest accomplishment of my college career. I graduated as the Outstanding Undergraduate from the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism in 2010.



Megan Thomas

"After graduating from Arizona State University, I received a full scholarship to pursue an M.A. in global business journalism at Tsinghua University in Beijing. I participated in local internships and was awarded Excellent Student Thesis, graduating in 2013.

"I then went on to work for the non-profit that provided me my graduate scholarship in the Philippines for nearly three years, overseeing an editorial team covering news on developing industries in Southeast Asian countries. The team also provided support and training to small and medium producers in the countries to help them grow their businesses so they could hire more local people and contribute to their local economies.

"I recently took a new position as a content manager in Shenzhen, China, writing about local hardware technology startups and providing support for them."

Are you still involved in the tribe?

"Being involved in the tribe is not the easiest thing to do on a different continent, but I try to live by tribal values each day. I work to stay aware of developments with the tribe and other Native nations in the U.S. I also try to spread awareness and understanding of Native American issues whenever I can."

How did the PLP help you succeed?

"The tribe helped me develop personally, culturally and professionally. It gave me a better understanding of the past while spurring me to shape a better future and help others. It is the foundation upon which all my other professional achievements have been built.

"I will always be grateful to my first journalism mentor Michael Dodson for all his warm encouragement, training and understanding. He was a great, kind man to whom I'll always be indebted. He changed my life and is deeply missed. I am also grateful to our Chairman John Barrett, Vice-Chairman Linda Capps and Secretary-Treasurer D. Wayne Trousdale for providing the incredible PLP opportunity to me. I also give thanks to Margaret Zientek, Tesia Zientek, Justin Neely, Donald Perrot, Sam Navarre, Josh Frost and the Clay family for making it the amazing experience that it was and for the knowledge they imparted to me."

To learn more about the Potawatomi Leadership Program and to apply for the 2017 program, please visit plp.potawatomi.org.

College leadership program applications open February 1

By Tesia Zientek, Director, CPN Department of Education

The 2017 Potawatomi Leadership Program application will be open from February 1 - April 15. Every summer, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation brings 8-10 tribal members ages 18-20 to learn about the tribe's government, economic development and culture as part of the PLP.

In 2003, the program began as a way to address a need to prepare future leaders for the Nation. Tribal leaders understood that a critical aspect of leadership involves understanding the inner workings of the tribe, so they invited students to spend six weeks in Shawnee, Oklahoma to participate in cultural events, meet directors of government programs and commercial enterprises while taking an active part in their Citizen Potawatomi Nations' government processes. Since then, over a hundred students



2016 Potawatomi Leadership Program.

from all over the world have participated in this Harvard Honoring Nations Award-winning program.

For many, the experience has been life-changing. After her participation, Ivory Hanson, a 2015 PLP from Urbandale, Iowa stated, "I will take with me a better understanding of our history, cultural lessons I have learned from different people in the tribe, and understanding of how accomplished CPN is as a nation with all of its different businesses and

ventures, and how passionate people are about the tribe."

Like many PLP students, Ivory has maintained her engagement after the program ended. In the summer of 2016, she returned as an economic development intern and plans to continue her involvement with tribal affairs into her career.

This year's program will take place from Friday, June 16 – Saturday, July 29. To be eligible for the PLP,

students must have at least a 3.0 GPA, be 18-20 years old by the program's start date, and have not completed more than one year of college. Travel expenses, housing, food and a weekly stipend are all provided. In addition, students can opt to receive three credits from St. Gregory's University for completing the program. Students can learn more and apply online at plp.potawatomi.org.

Wadasé update: February 2017



By Bree Dunham, Assistant Director, CPN Eagle Aviary

Winter has already given us record setting low temperatures in many areas of the state and all-time record highs for the season, all in the same week. A reminder that the old Will Rogers quip, “If you don’t like the weather in Oklahoma, wait a minute and it’ll change,” still holds true as we prepare for the next round of winter weather on a beautiful sunny, 70 degree day in shorts and t-shirts.

The aviary sits near the edge of what many forecasters are calling the freezing boundary as a rain moves into the area over the weekend. Rain, sleet, ice or snow the eagles are prepared and while our weather may be unpredictable, Wadasé Zhabwé has not been. She continues to return to the area in and around the aviary every two to three weeks. She has established several 40-50 mile routes that she follows as she makes her way from one familiar hunting ground to the

next. She stays at these locations for several days before making the trip back towards home. Although, the last time she was at the aviary was the first week in December, she has been within a few miles of the aviary and that timing is right on schedule with her previous visits.

We are seeing more wintering bald eagles in the state and we have seen several pairs already at many of the nest sites we monitor. But Wadasé continues to roam. She frequents her favorite places along the river but never remains in one area for too long, all indications that she will not nest this season. Bald eagles reach maturity at four to five years of age but not all nest immediately. Even though Wadasé is five this year, she was injured and spent nearly a year at the aviary before she was released, and her experience in the wild was delayed slightly. However, it is possible that she could still find a potential mate this season. We will still keep an eye out for her potential plus one.

Wadasé’s telemetry backpack continues to give us consistent data and

although she was not expected to still be wearing the unit we are hoping for many more seasons of telemetry. One of our long term goals, if we are fortunate enough to know the location she chooses, is to install a nest camera that would allow us to continue sharing her story for many years even without telemetry. The idea of watching one of our own *Bodéwadmí* (Potawatomi) nest is exciting. Until then there are many active nest cameras across the country with thousands of people watching daily. Because of the different weather patterns across the U.S. nesting times for bald eagles vary greatly depending on location. Northern bald eagles typically nest in February or April while those in the south begin to nest in December and January. Wadasé was found in central Florida and there are two great nest cameras there that have already hatched young this season. If you would like to watch an eagle hatch there are a couple of nest cameras in Iowa where the eagles are just beginning to work on the nest for the season and those eggs are typically laid the second week in February. But

we must caution readers up front, viewing can be highly addictive.

North Florida Nest Cams

www.nefleaglecam.org

www.dickpritchettrealestate.com/eagle-feed.html

South Florida Nest Cams

www.ustream.tv/decoraheagles

As always we encourage you to keep your eyes out for Wadasé if you are near the areas she frequents. For more information about the CPN Eagle Aviary or to read previous Wadasé updates visit www.potawatomiheritage.org.

Send your encounters with Wadasé or any other eagles in Oklahoma or wherever you may be to us at aviary@potawatomi.org. Those reports have been a valuable tool in tracking her progress and locating nest sites around the state.

Heritage center requests tribal member participation in moccasin project

In 1838, 859 pairs of feet were forced to march 660 miles from their home in Indiana to Kansas on what is now referred to as the Trail of Death. Citizen Potawatomi Nation Cultural Heritage Center staff is looking for tribal members to make a pair of pucker toe moccasins to illustrate these feet for the new museum exhibit that portrays this seminal event in Potawatomi history.

“We want visitors to be able to look at these moccasins as the things that protected our ancestors on that very long walk,” CPN Cultural Heritage Center Director, Kelli Mosteller, Ph.D., said. “To have removal represented in this way and to have each pair handmade by a tribal member will create a personal connection. I really hope that when the visitor comes they can see the love that was put into each pair of moccasins and better connect to those individuals who went through this experience. We want to keep that memory alive.”



When it is complete, there will be a 72 square-foot wall of moccasins. Each pair will be handmade by a tribal member fitting the size of their foot and represent 10 people who were on the Trail of Death. Since there were 859 people who made the

trek from the Great Lakes, 86 moccasins will be made and mounted to the wall near a plaque with the names of their maker.

“When you come to the wall, you will see a physical representation

of the people who had to leave their home and experience this life-altering removal,” said Mosteller. “They experienced, not only the physical removal from the Great Lakes, but also from everything they’ve ever known: their homeland, their way of life and the place the Creator led them to.”

Each participant will be given the supplies and instructions needed to complete a pair of pucker toe moccasins. The moccasin wall will be complete by Family Reunion Festival in June.

For local tribal members, there will be moccasin making workshops at the Cultural Heritage Center on February 27, 5:30-7:30 p.m. and March 25, 1-3 p.m.

For out-of-state tribal members, contact Kelli Mosteller at cpnchc@gmail.com or (405) 878-5830.

FireLodge Tribal Youth update: February 2017

By Coby Lehman, Tribal Youth Cultural Activities Coordinator

For a short month, February 2017 packs a big punch of events for the PLACE.

For the second year in a row we start back the girls-to-women and the boys-to-men programs. From February through April the program will focus on providing much needed tools for our tribal youth to be successful as they grow into adults. Each week will be packed with guest speakers who are positive, successful individuals working in our tribal entities. We will be helping our tribal youth complete job and college applications, college grants, host mock job interviews, as well as instructing them on how to handle personal finances.

As we celebrate and commemorate Black History Month, some of the major influential events and individuals we will highlight include the Freedom Fighters, Rosa Parks and the Underground Railroad. We will also take a look at the many African American inventors.

February 13 is World Radio Day and we will celebrate why we love and



Zak Coleman shoots pool during the PLACE's afterschool session.

need it. This is a day to remember the unique power of radio to touch lives and bring people together. We will be bringing our tribal youth together by K-PLACE.

February 14 is Valentine's Day. We will be celebrating with the tribal youth by having a valentines dinner and dance. Also in February we will kick off our Mardi Gras celebration.

Also to shake the cold we will have a staff chili cook off. The tribal youth will be the judges.

In conjunction with the Get Native Program from January, we will continue our native wellness program. We will touch on native vision and understanding your purpose in life. We will also focus on 10 ways to become a better person.

As we keep with developing healthy eating and exercise practices, our Get Fit Program will find fun ways of staying active. We will have a hula hoop contest, whiffle ball and volleyball.

In the Get Smart Program our tribal youth will learn about healthy heart and healthy dental practices, while we will host guest speakers from our CPN Healthy Heart Program. We will also have guest speaker Amanda Chapman from the CPN House of Hope, who will discuss understanding teen dating violence. To finish up our Get Smart Program, Sun., February 26 kicks off the NASCAR season with the Daytona 500. We will have the Place 500, which is four weeks of learning about Pine Wood Derby.

In week one, youth will learn the rules. Week two will allow the youth to build and design their derby kits. In week three, youth will present their cars for inspection before the week four main event, where youth will have a Pine Wood Derby PLACE 500 Race.

If you would like to learn more about our programs, please reach out to me at thomas.lehman@potawatomi.org or call us at 405-214-5110.

Language with Justin: February 2017

By Justin Neely, Director, CPN Language Department

This month we will be hosting our fifth annual winter storytelling event on February 22 at the CPN Cultural Heritage Center from 6-8 p.m. As many of you may recall, traditionally we have a number of stories which can only be told in the winter time. Preferably when there is snow on the ground. Here in Oklahoma snow is very inconsistent from year to year. Our elders told us that in the winter the spirits are asleep so we could share certain stories. In particular stories which involve Nanabozho or Wiske the trickster. Sometimes Wiske would play jokes on our people and other times he would help us with the gift of fire or teach us a lesson.

Please mark your calendars for this event. We will have food and drinks so send us an email if you are coming to jneely@potawatomi.org so we can plan accordingly. But if you forget please don't hesitate to pop on in and enjoy some fellowship with other Potawatomi and learn some stories which you can pass on one day to your own kids, grandkids, nieces and nephews.

In the Potawatomi world view the passing of a winter was an indicator of a new year. We would follow the 13 moons and watch for changes in our environment to know that the seasons were changing. The coming of the thunders, the noise

of the bullfrog and the return of the crane were all indicators that the winter season was coming to a close. Remember, if you'd like to learn the language at your own pace, visit our online courses for adults and children at language.potawatomi.org.

Winter language lesson

Ksenya mget zagech.

It's cold outside.

(Kuh sin yam get zah gech)

Explanation: **Ksenya** (It is cold, **mget**- it is (can be used without but often used with weather terms. **Zagech**- outside.

Wi bonimget nyano gishgok.

It's going to snow Friday. (We bone eemget neeyahno geesh goke)

Explanation: **Wi**- future tense marker **boni**- it is snowing, **mget** means it is and can be used or left off. **Nyano gishgok**- On Friday. Nyano from nyanen- 5th (hence 5th day of the week) **gishgek** or **gishek** day. **Gishgok**- locative to indicate on that day.

Ngi-nodan mteno éwi gmowek.

I heard it only going to rain. (Nuh-gee no dan mTino eh week moe wuck)

Explanation: **N-I gi**- past tense marker **nodan**- verb to hear it. **Mteno**-only (the m is semi silent or hardly said) **é**- it's a fact used to stop the change from **wi** to **wa** with a verb in the conjunct. **wi**- future tense marker. **Gmowen**- it is raining (one of the verbs which is animate in weather so doesn't take the **mget**) **gmowek**- conjunct for of the verb. Used often



when two or more verbs are in a sentence.

Gmowen.

It is raining. (Mo wen)

Cho. Wi bonimget anake mkomis.

No it's going to snow or ice.

(Cho. Wee bone eemget ah nakay muhcomb ees)

Explanation: **Cho**- no **wi**- future tense marker. **Wi Bonimget**- it will snow **anake**- or some use **nake**. **Mkomis**- icy. Some say **mkwem** for ice.

Shkena kyetnam kche boni mget.

Geeze it's really snowing. (Shkay nah key yet nam kuchay bone eemget)

Explanation: **Shkena**- geeze, **kyetnam**- really/ intensely **kche**- heavy or really or intensely attached to a

verb. **Kche bonimget**- it's really snowing.

Gon nene nwi-zhetomen.

Let's make a snow man. (Goh ne nuhnay nuh wee zheh toe min)

Explanation: **Gon**-snow **nene**-man **nzheto**- let's make/create from the verb **wzheton**.

Gnedwendam ne gon pkwakwet migadiyek?

Do you all want to have a snowball fight? (Guh ned win dahm nay goh ne puhkwahquit mee gah dee yuck)

Explanation: **Gnedwendam** you all want **ne**- question from verb **nedwendan**- want something. **Gon**-snow **pkwakwet**- ball **migadi**- verb to fight **yek**- you all do it in the conjunct form.

Rekindling 7 Generations update: February 2017

By Lakota Pochedley, CPN Cultural Education Specialist

For the month of December, Rekindling 7 Generation sYouth stayed busy with our monthly traditional arts and skills groups, boys' drumming circle, and girls' talking circle. Over winter break, new and old R7G youth participated in our Winter Arts Workshop. For four days, youth explored various traditional and modern art forms, including drawing, photography, film, storytelling and new forms of digital media. We were lucky enough to be joined by CPN employees Bo Apitz, Will Hogan, Jennifer Randell, Bree Dunham, and Kelli Mosteller, Ph.D., and local community members Johnnie Jae, Mark Williams, Sam Navarre and Randy Schlachtun.

Each volunteer shared their various perspectives and experiences in the arts as Native Americans or working in Native American communities. In the afternoons, youth were able to play traditional sports, such as, *pegnegewen* and Indian football, and afterwards many sketched, took photos and film, and created stories about the eagle aviary and the eagles that live there. One of our first R7G participants shares her experiences below:



Hannah Camron and Anna Rhodd Brimm work on a crafting project during a recent R7G meeting.

"I am Hannah Camron and I go to Konawa Public Schools. I am Navajo, Seminole and Creek. Last summer, my friend wanted me to join the traditional sports camp R7G hosted. I agreed to check it out and surprisingly enjoyed the camp. I was drawn to the R7G program since I loved the activities they had for the week. I became more interested in the program throughout the summer and joined R7G right away.

"Once I joined R7G, they provided so many events that I could participate in, for example the Girls' Talking

Circle, NB3 Fit Day, the Traditional Arts and Skills Group where we've been learning how to bead and the Winter Arts Workshop. Every event they have hosted so far is exciting and fun. I have even met different people from different tribes and different schools. I am really happy that I joined R7G.

"One of the events R7G created for Christmas break was the Winter Arts Workshop. It made the rest of my Christmas break exciting. The Winter Arts Workshop showed me different ways I could use art, such

as photography, filming, drawing, and clothing. During the workshop everyone drew scenery, an eagle, or someone particular. We also played *pegnegewen* and Indian football. The games were harsh but amusing. The event made my week, and I was sad that it ended. I love all of R7G's events and programs and I want to join every one of them in the future."

Traditionally during the winter season, the Potawatomi would work on traditional craftwork, share stories, and try to stay warm. We will continue in the same vein as we prepare for our language workshop in February – which can be signed up for at cpn.news/RK7Feb2017. The deadline for sign up is February 14. If you are new to the R7G program, before you sign up for any workshops we ask that you fill out and submit our general application here cpn.news/culturalapp.

We encourage everyone to like our Facebook Page, facebook.com/R7Gen/ to stay up to date about all our workshops, classes and community events. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at Lakota.Pochedley@potawatomi.org or 405-878-5830. All our programs are Potawatomi and Native preference.

CPN Department of Education update: February 2017

By Tesia Zientek, Director, CPN Department of Education

CPN-SGU Tribal Development Scholarship Update

After completing a full year of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation-St. Gregory's University Tribal Development Scholarship, the CPN Department of Education staff had a chance to sit down with tribal and university leadership. After reflecting on all of the successes and lessons learned, everyone agreed how proud we are that this opportunity exists for the wonderful students receiving this scholarship. With ten percent of the SGU student population now receiving this scholarship, it's extremely exciting to see how a partnership that started over 100 years ago between the tribe and the university is flourishing in 2017.

We also discussed some policy changes. Because there has been such interest in the program, tribal members should understand that the fund is being spent quickly, so if you are interested, it would be better to apply sooner rather than later. To ensure that we are investing funds well, we will be reviewing new applicants carefully using a new admission process. All of the program's current policies can be viewed cpn.news/EduHandBook, but some of the highlights are included below.



CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

1. Prospective students will begin by completing a short, online application provided by the CPN at cpn.news/sguscholarship. While the application will have a rolling deadline, an application for admission should be submitted *at least one month before the term* in which the student plans to enroll to allow time for the full process. As part of the application, students will be required to submit the following:

- Contact and demographic information
- Previous schools attended information
- Unofficial transcript
- ACT/SAT scores (or an explanation explaining why they are not available)
- Answers to two essay questions:
 - What are your academic and career goals?
 - How will you use this scholarship to benefit your tribal community?

2. A scholarship committee made up of members from the CPN Department of Education will review each application using criteria to determine the likelihood of successful graduation. Criteria will include a student's academic history, ability to meet SGU's admission requirements, demonstration of alignment of scholarship and university mission through essay answers and verification of tribal enrollment. Students who are not selected to receive the scholarship still may attend SGU, but they will be responsible for paying their tuition.

3. Students selected by the CPN Scholarship Committee will be referred to the SGU Admissions Department, where they will be instructed to apply online at www.stgregorys.edu. Prospective students may also visit the admissions office at the university on the first floor of Benedictine Hall.

4. SGU applicants must meet minimal admission criteria or be admitted on probation, as outlined in the *St. Gregory's University Academic Catalog* in order to be eligible.

5. Once students have been approved for the scholarship and admitted into SGU, they will meet with a CPN College Advisor to review the scholarship handbook, sign a form detailing their understanding of the policies included herein, and complete an authorization of release form. Until they have completed these steps, their scholarship funding will be withheld.

6. Students will only be guaranteed funding for a year at a time, provided they meet satisfactory academic progress. For students who are placed on academic probation, the CPN Department of Education will provide support and an improvement plan to help a student get off of probation and avoid relinquishing the scholarship.

We look forward to welcoming a new group of students this spring! If any student has a question about the CPN-SGU Tribal Development Scholarship, they can reach out to the CPN Department of Education via email at college@potawatomi.org or telephone at 405-275-3121.



Bozho Nikanek,
(Hello my friends)

There is great news here at the Citizen Potawatomi Nation in our efforts to provide higher education for our people. Our most recent agreement with St. Gregory's University in Shawnee resulted in more than 70 new students in the undergraduate program there, making 10 percent of the student's population Citizen Potawatomi. In addition, our Citizen Potawatomi Community Development Corporation has received a long term (40 year) low interest loan from the United States Department of Agriculture to relend to St. Gregory's. This loan will allow the university to refinance and add to their existing campus and will continue the 140 year relationship we have with the

Tribal Chairman - John "Rocky" Barrett

only Catholic university of Oklahoma, as St. Gregory's was called in 1875.

It is the oldest university in Oklahoma and is the result of a direct communication in 1875 between the newly formed tribal government on our reservation in what would become Oklahoma, and the Benedictine monks of St. Gregory's Abbey. In return for a grant of a square mile of land from the Citizen Potawatomi, the monks came over from France in 1875 and started the school and church where present day Sacred Heart, Oklahoma is located in the far southeast end of our jurisdiction. The college moved to Shawnee after a disastrous fire in 1901 that destroyed more than 75 percent of the college and boarding school. Since the Sacred Heart area had been bypassed by the railroads, the decision was made by the monks to relocate the college 35 miles north to Shawnee, Oklahoma Territory. The college is now an autonomous entity governed by a board of directors that includes D. Wayne Trousdale, secretary-treasurer of the Citizen Potawatomi Na-

tion and me. We have great hopes in this opportunity to provide a quality education for our citizens while making the facilities of the Nation and our culture available to the students while they are in school. After graduation, these students will have enhanced employment opportunities in tribal jobs. The result can only be positive for the future of our tribe and government.

On the local front, our litigation with the various agencies of the State of Oklahoma and Rural Water District 3, the tribally sponsored rural water district, is drawing to a successful close. With only one appeal left for the state, it appears we will obtain a favorable ruling from the courts. While this litigation, including the now-dismissed lawsuit with the City of Shawnee, has been an expensive fight, we are prevailing. We truly had no choice in this issue. We had to either defend the Nation's interests in court, or watch our governmental authority evaporate under a barrage of racially inspired attacks, and watch access to drinking water for more than 75 percent

of the county and its towns, homes, schools and churches simply disappear. Things are looking better for the future.

These are still, however, often difficult and sometimes tragic times. Our tribal operations now include more than 2,400 employees. We have suffered a recent tragedy at the Grand Casino. In response, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation is beginning a new area of training for our managers and employees to minimize and prevent workplace violence. This is a national problem that is receiving the full attention of virtually every kind government and private enterprise operation. While the tragedy occurred in a non-public area of the casino and involved two employees who were not Citizen Potawatomi, our law enforcement personnel, management and staff performed in a highly professional manner. For the future, we are going to go the extra mile to ensure and enhance the safety of our employees and customers in the workplace. This training will be done throughout our tribal organization with a particular emphasis on crisis

management. The recent incident was completely spontaneous, however, and occurred without manifesting itself in any kind of obvious previous behavior. It seems to have been the result of a sudden mental aberration in one individual. Truly, that the world is becoming a more violent place is the sad reality. We just have to prepare our people for a heightened awareness of the behavior of those around them and have a solid plan for how to deal with it. In the nearly one and one half centuries we have been here in Oklahoma as a tribe, this has always been a safe place to work and visit. That will not change as we grow.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your tribal chairman. It is an exciting and challenging job that I truly love. I have filed for reelection for another four year term and would be grateful for your vote and support.

Migwetch,

John "Rocky" Barrett
Keweoge
"He leads them home."
Tribal Chairman



Vice-Chairman - Linda Capps

For further convenience for Oklahoma's veterans, the claims and benefits division has ODVA Veterans Service Representatives who travel on an itinerant basis offering assistance in all counties throughout the state.

It is the ODVA Veterans Service representative that intertwines with my article. Furthermore, it is the reason for the gentleman's picture that you see with this column. Steve Webb, ODVA Veterans Service Representative from the Muskogee, Oklahoma office will be a friendly face at CPN beginning in March.

On February 6, Mr. Webb will visit the Citizen Potawatomi Nation to get a feel of what CPN is all about. During his first day at our tribe, he and I will visit several CPN departments and will also speak with individuals interested in the services that he provides.

After that initial visit, Steve Webb will be a regular at the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, coming to the tribe twice a month on the first and third Monday. He will be housed

at the new CPN Employment and Training Building right next to the CPN Administration building.

Since the new E&T building is not scheduled to open until March, that will be the initial month that Mr. Webb visits with veterans' families. His first meeting for veterans' visits will be March 6.

Until that time, Mr. Webb can be reached via cell 918-397-2566 or swebb@odva.state.ok.us. The area manager is David Stallings who can be reached at 918-577-0372. I have met with Mr. Stallings several times to work out the details of an agreement between the ODVA and CPN. Stallings has coordinated with other ODVA offices in order to free Steve Webb's schedule for a March beginning date.

If you or a family of a veteran need further contact information, please reach out to:

Veterans Crisis Line
Report fraud, waste, abuse and neglect.

1-800-273-8255

Toll free: 855-701-6382
Oklahoma local number:
405-523-4000

I am elated about the service that will be offered to our veterans. Clyde "Rowdy" Yates has volunteered in assisting veterans in numerous ways for many years. Mr. Yates is also an active member of the CPN Veterans' Organization. We appreciate his service, and we thank him for the extra effort that he has shown many of our people throughout the years. The representation from the Oklahoma Veterans Affairs Department will strengthen what Clyde has provided in the past. The caliber of expertise that Webb will bring to our veterans is a win-win to our tribe. The ODVA Claims and Benefits Division will have access to our veterans' families in order to better serve their needs. Our tribe will have up-to-date information and trained assistance from the ODVA. I look forward to implementing an efficient and effective memorandum of understanding to help our veterans and their families.



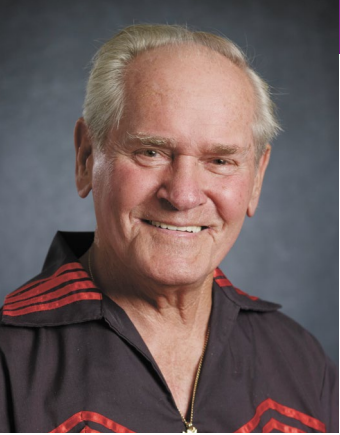
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The Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs has many services for Oklahoma veterans and their family members. One department that touches the lives of many Oklahoma veteran families is the ODVA Claims and Benefits Division. This department has offices in several Oklahoma locations including the:

- ODVA Regional Office, Muskogee
- ODVA Medical Center, Oklahoma City
- ODVA Medical Center, Muskogee
- ODVA Outpatient Clinic, Tulsa
- Lawton/Fort Sill Oklahoma Veterans Center



Bozho nikan,
(Hello friend)

I hope your New Year has begun in a positive manner. By the time this paper arrives on your door step, it will of-

District 1 - Roy Slavin

ficially be election season at the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. I announced this in some of the previous editions of the *Hownikan*, but wanted to reiterate it again. I am running for another term of as your District 1 legislator. If you are in districts 1,2,3,4, you can vote for your respective legislative office. If you're a Citizen Potawatomi voter, regardless of your location, you can vote for the office of tribal chairman and on the tribe's annual budget. I encourage you to read the next months' editions of the

Hownikan as well as contact those running for office to ask them questions important to you as a voter. It is the tribal legislature and executives who help shape and implement policy and programs that impact you as Citizen Potawatomi tribal members. Regardless of who you vote for, there is no excuse for not casting a ballot. Ballot request forms will be mailed out to all eligible voters in the months prior to Election Day at the end of June 2017. The CPN Election Committee mails these

forms using the last known address for you in their records, so if you have moved or can't remember the last time you updated that information, you should contact them at 405-878-5830. I had planned on cheering on my hometown Kansas City Chiefs in what I'd hoped would be a long run in the NFL playoffs. I'm a lifelong fan, former season ticket holder and this past fall I took part in a ceremony in honor of Native American Heritage Month. But the Pittsburgh Steelers came to

town just after an ice storm, and so now I'm just looking forward to next season instead. I will close this article as always with a plea for your contact information. If you do not get email from me occasionally it is because I do not have your information and due to privacy issues the nation cannot provide me with that information. Roy Slavin
Netagtege (Forever Planting)
rslavin@potawatomi.org
rjslavin@gmail.com



Bozho nikanek!
(Hello my friends)

Celebrate the best of *bbon*/winter: As I get ready to finalize this column there's two inches of fresh new snow here in Virginia – it's officially *bbon*/winter. Winter 2017 brings opportunities for traditional learning and time for study, reflection, cooking soups and stews, and storytelling. As our terrific CPN Cultural Heritage Center website, www.potawatomi-heritage.org, tells us about our ancestors' winter activities: "Migrating to winter camps, Potawatomi would focus on attaining food through the trapping of small game and ice-fishing. Food that had been collected from the previous month's hunts, harvests and gatherings were used to supplement diets. Meats and fish were smoked, dried and stored on elevated pallets to deter theft from animals, insects and raiders. Crops such as corn, beans and nuts were also protected; stored in subterranean pits and baskets. "During *bbongises* [Snow Moon] Potawatomi and other Great Lakes tribes played a traditional sport called *Zhoshke'nayabo* or Snowsnake. Typically played by men and boys, snowsnake was not only for amusement, but for spiritual and therapeutic means. It is thought that the comradery amongst players remedied the sick. Games lasted for several hours and were played by

District 2 - Eva Marie Carney

teams of four, each equipped with a spear-like implement called a *zhoshke'nayabo*. Carved from local hardwoods and polished smooth, *zhoshke'nayabo* ranged from two to seven feet in length and one inch in diameter. The object of the game was for each competitor to hurl their *zhoshke'nayabo*, down an icy track, farther than their opponent. When thrown, the *zhoshke'nayabo* was thought to resemble a snake slithering, hence the name snowsnake. The team with the longest cumulative distance won. "With much time spent indoors, *bbon* was the time when elders would tell stories, passing on oral traditions and histories. *Wiske* or *Nanabozho* were central to these narratives as it was considered taboo to recount them outside of the winter months. *Bbon* also brought stories of the Windigo, a man-eating creature that traveled in blizzards devouring ill-mannered children." **Warming soups and stews:** When it comes to Potawatomi soup and stew recipes, there's a number to choose from - here's one link: www.evamariecarney.com/documents/indian_recipes.pdf, which is to Priscilla Mullin Sherard's cookbook, dating from 1975. This cookbook features recipes for many traditional dishes. And here's another link, to a book I put together in 2013 (it includes our family's favorite cream cheese fudge and banana bread recipes, and the best barbecue sauce recipe, shared by the Ziegler family): <http://tinyurl.com/CPNcooking>. In this 2013 book is the following recipe from former Louisianan/now-Floridian, Nina White, a Pettifer, for a tasty chicken and corn soup:

Tasty Chicken

Ingredients:
1 Tbsp. margarine
1 medium onion, chopped
4 boneless chicken breast halves, cut into 1/4 inch pieces
1/4 c. all-purpose flour
4 c. milk
2 (15 oz.) cans cream-style corn
1 (4.5 oz.) can chopped green chiles
1 (2 oz.) jar copped pimientos
Salt and pepper to taste

Instructions:
Melt margarine in Dutch oven or large pot over medium heat. Add onion; cook and stir 2 minutes. Add chicken; cook and stir 3 minutes. Cover; cook 5 minutes or until chicken is no longer pink and onion is tender. Stir in flour until well blended. Gradually add milk, cooking and stirring over medium-high heat until thickened and bubbly. Add all remaining ingredients; cook until thoroughly heated.

This same book also includes this traditional peanut soup recipe, shared by Virginian Tiffany Carter (Crumbo family), who was gifted it by a Cree/Potawatomi elder:

Peanut Soup

Ingredients for 6 servings:
1 (9 1/2 oz.) jar of dry roasted peanuts
2 c. milk
2 c. chicken broth
1 Tbsp. minced chives

Instructions:
Puree the nuts in a blender. Mix nuts and other ingredients in a large sauce pan, stir often and heat 15-20 minutes. Serve hot and in small portions -- this is very rich.

Traditional winter stories: A number of traditional winter stories that have been shared with me over the last years are reprinted in a winter stories book you can review/print out through the following dropbox link: <http://tinyurl.com/hbmugof>.

I hope you enjoy these collections of recipes and stories – they reflect contributions of quite a few Potawatomi friends and, with respect to the 2013 recipes book and the winter stories book, our family's efforts to format, type and proofread the text

(though, somehow, I see typos every time I take a look at them, but maybe that's just the lawyer/editor in me – I thought we did a good job of finding those typos!). **Keeping up with your fellow Potawatomi:** To be in the loop on District 2 and CPN national happenings, please send me your email address so I can send you email updates! Also, if you are in District 2 and a Facebook user, please find me on Facebook (I'm the only Facebook user with my name, I believe!) and friend me so I can also add you to our private District 2 Facebook group; we now have more than 150 members – there has been slow but steady growth in the group. District 2 folks, please also contact me if you want to receive a (not so) new year's mailing and haven't already; I will need you to confirm your current mailing address (to avoid costly USPS returns of misdirected mail). Please send me an email or leave a voicemail message with your current mailing address for this purpose. **Personal thanks and good wishes:** *Migwetch*/thank you for the honor of representing you. May your winter be blizzard-free but full of family stories that don't result in Windigo, the man-eating creature, taking a bite out of your children or grandchildren, even if they sometimes forget their manners! Eva Marie Carney
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District 3 - Bob Whistler

Bozho nikanek,
(Hello friends)

At times famous words come up that were spoken by historically famous individuals. For example, "Give me liberty, or give me death!"

Our history books advise it was Patrick Henry.

Another is; "My fellow Americans, ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country."

These words were spoken by President John F. Kennedy.

As we look back at history there are also many well known and famous Native Americans. Nez Perce Chief Joseph, Chiricahua Apache Chief Geronimo and Ogallala Sioux chief Red Cloud just to name a few.

I recently received a very meaningful gift from my daughter Michelle, a very small book that measures 2 3/4 inches by 3 1/2 inches and is 1/4 inch thick roughly 130 pages long. The book is titled "Native American Wisdom" by Running Press in Philadelphia. The book can be purchased from Amazon for \$5.95, plus postage. You can read its entire contents in about an hour. It would make a great gift for a persons' birthday. I am including a photo of the book so when you look on Amazon, you can confirm it is what you wish to order.

In our heritage and culture, very little was written down, but was passed on by word of mouth from generation to generation. I found the words of wisdom in this little book a very good source of reminding me of our past, how they thought, and lived. Our present history books, are gradually erasing as much of our specific past as possible, since the U.S. government would like all mention of the deliberate genocide or enslavement of our ancestors to go away. On pages 104 and 105 of this book, Potawatomi Simon Pokagon (1830-1899) referenced the fact that the future is basically a result of the past and the present. This is a very good statement of cause and effect.

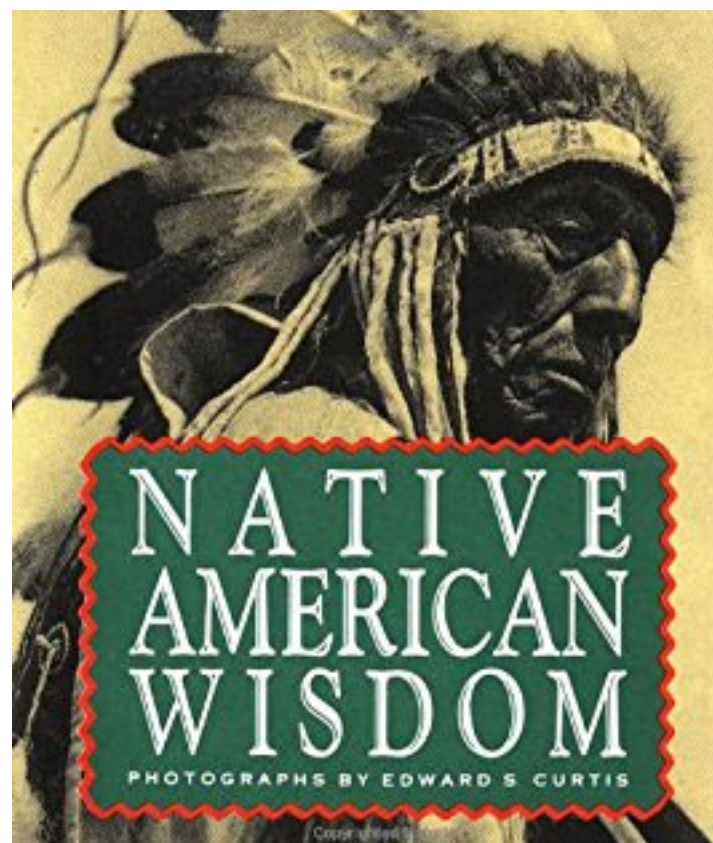
In the years I have been in office as your elected representative for District 3, I have had the good fortune to listen to stories and events brought to me by Chairman John "Rocky" Barrett and others. Last month, I wrote that you need to be proud that you are Potawatomi. Moreover, you should let others know who and what you are. To do this, means you need to increase your knowledge about our Nation, our race and other Native American nations. There are many sources that you can use to reach that objective.

The little book I am mentioning today is a start. There are other books out there. There are also sources available in our Potawatomi Gift Shop inside the Cultural Heritage Center, which is also online at giftshop.potawatomi.org. Don't forget, many pieces of cultural and historical information can be found online at www.potawatomiheritage.org. I also visit the store Half Price Books, which has an

entire section on the subject. If you by chance ever fly into or out of Milwaukee, Wisconsin Airport, there is a used bookstore in the lobby that has many books on Native American history. Going to powwows, Santa Fe Days and American Indian Heritage Day in Texas are good events if you are unable to get to Shawnee for Family Festival. To learn even more about all of the nine Potawatomi nations, it would be well worth your time to attend one of the Gathering of Potawatomi Nations each August. In 2016, we hosted the event in Shawnee. By going to these you have the opportunity to get exposed to our language and crafts.

Another source is to attend district meetings. In 2017, my plan is to hold meetings in the following areas: Tyler, Abilene, The Dallas-Fort Worth area and south Texas. These will be held starting near the end of March.

In 2017, the following offices of the Nation will be up for election; Chairman, legislative representatives from districts 1-4 and a budget item. Letters will be mailed out by the Nation to all known citizens over the age of 21. It is an invitation to receive an absentee ballot. This is a very important election and I urge you to submit your request for a ballot, complete it, and send it back in. The only cost to you is to fill out the two forms. There will be postage paid envelopes to send in your ballot request, and to then send in the completed absentee ballot. Ensure your information is up-to-date with the CPN Tribal Rolls office before spring 2017 as they go off of your last known address to them. They do not keep track



if you move and do not tell them. They can be contacted toll free at (800) 880-9880.

Yes, I will be running for another term.

In closing, I am honored to serve as your District 3 representative and proud of the fact that I have been able to represent you and the Nation in many capacities. As a point of information, I physically attend each of the legislative meetings held each quarter in Shawnee. While each district outside Oklahoma can participate remotely, I believe that by being physically present, I have eliminated any possibility of being overlooked when I have a question on a resolution or budget item. This also gives me the opportunity to have lunch with the elders at times, and visit with CPN Tribal Rolls and the CPN Language Department when working on a naming. If you need assistance on anything relating to the Nation, please give me a call or contact me by email.

So until next month, enjoy the other articles in the *Hownikan*, consider getting a book on our history or culture and start working on your regalia if you're planning to attend the 2017 Family Festival. This year the Bourassa family is one of the honored families. For Grand Entry, I plan to be in full regalia. If there is enough interest in getting specific t-shirts with the family name, let me know and I will work with FireLake Designs to set it up for personal orders. You will need to preorder the shirt and go to their facility to pick up your item.

Bama pi, (later)

Bob Whistler
Bmashi (He soars)
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Hownikan

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Questions: hownikan@potawatomi.org or 800-880-9880

Address changes should be sent to Tribal Rolls,
1601 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK 74801



District 4 - Jon Boursaw

Those other things I do in my spare time: I always heard that when I retired I would have all this spare time to do pretty much whatever I wanted to do. I think that lasted for the first few months and then I started to find projects and events that were of interest to me. About that same time I also started to receive questions like, "How would you like to..." and "we really need someone like you to..."

That's where it starts, the guilt trip; and the next thing you know all of that wonderful spare time is committed. But I'm involved in two activities that I have found to be enjoyable, hopefully beneficial and in many ways rewarding. They are:

Director of a Youth Leadership Conference: I am now involved in my third year as

Director of a YLC. The YLC in Topeka is one of approximately 30 YLCs held across the country sponsored by the Military Order of the World Wars, a national organization comprised of current, retired and former officers of the U.S. uniformed services. The two-day program, scheduled for March 22-23, is for high school sophomores and juniors who have been identified by their school officials as having demonstrated leadership qualities. The objective of the YLC is to have a curriculum comprised of 50 percent leadership, 30 percent patriotism and government and 20 percent free enterprise. To achieve this ratio takes some imagination and creativity.

In the leadership category there are presentations on leadership by example, ethics in leadership and a panel discussion on leadership in law enforcement. The panel is comprised of the superintendent of the Kansas Highway Patrol, the Shawnee County Sheriff and a bureau commander from the Topeka Police Department. Their individual comments about the complexity of their leadership roles will be followed

by a question and answer session with the students.

The patriotism and government category consists of presentations by a Shawnee County commissioner, a juvenile court judge and a former Vietnam fighter pilot, who was shot down north of Hanoi and escaped and evaded capture for 23 days before being rescued. There is also a special presentation on the U.S. entry in WWI by the archivist of the National WWI Museum in Kansas City.

The free enterprise objective this year is being achieved in part by a presentation by the director of the Washburn University Small Business Center. Then the students, who have been working in six member teams, will give a presentation on the development of a small business of their team's choosing.

Our first YLC in 2015 was attended by 15 students from five schools, last year we had 42 students from 10 schools and this year we are anticipating 70 students from the 27 schools invited to participate. All of this takes a lot of time and effort on part of our committee of eight members, but to witness the enthusiasm

and interest exhibited by the students during the two days makes it all worth it. If you would like more information about the YLC drop me an email or give me a call.

Volunteer at the Combat Air Museum: This one is pure fun. I volunteer a few days a month at the CAM, which is a museum consisting of 40 military airplanes and other aviation exhibits in two hangers located on Forbes Field in Topeka. Included in the collection are several legendary aircraft such as the Air Force's F-105, F-101, F-84, F-86, F-4, C-47; the Navy's A-4, F-9, F-11, F-14; and several Army helicopters. When I'm at the CAM I man the admission counter which gives me opportunity to do what I enjoy most—the opportunity meeting and talking with the other veterans as they enter and leave the museum. It is always interesting to hear about their time in the military, where and when they served and what brought them to the museum. Our visitors come from all over the United States and we also get a surprisingly large number of international visitors. Volunteering at the CAM allows me the oppor-

tunity to stay connected to a very large and important part of my life; my military career. If you are ever in the area and have a couple of free hours I encourage you to visit the CAM, and if you are truly fortunate you might find a familiar face behind the cash register. Again, if you would like more information about the museum drop me an email, give me a call, or go online at www.combatairmuseum.org.

Not to worry, I still have plenty of time dedicated to fulfilling my responsibilities as your legislative representative.

As always, it is my pleasure to serve as your legislative representative.

Migwetch,

Jon Boursaw, *Wetase Mkoh*
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Other times - Please call



District 5 - Gene Lambert

including our pets. We could talk about your love of your home, life calling or hobbies. It is all about life passions. Those things that keep us rooted in everyday life. The reason we go forward when we feel drained from the demands of the world around us.

As in life there was a duality in St. Valentine's Day as well.

The legend of Saint Valentine comes from the Roman Empire, when Saint Valentine was martyred for officiating weddings of Roman soldiers when it had been forbidden. The belief was they would be better soldiers if they did not have the family at home to consider. So the weddings

were performed in secret. Being discovered meant death for officiates.

It was the same theory practiced by the Roman Catholic priests. They could better serve the parishioners if they did not have the family to draw their energy, time and commitment.

The Valentine's Day practice arrived in America in the 1840s and is the second largest day for the expression of love through special gifts. Nationally, more than one billion cards, or gifts, are sent, along with 220 million roses grown and over six million couples are engaged on February 14 as an expression of passion and life commitment to another.

We all get tied up in the regimented lives we lead and never take the time on a daily basis to show the love we have for those around us who make life worth living.

Some think the work they do, the support they provide all say "I love you." It does. However, there is more. The daily dinners you share are losing momentum, bring them back. The telephone call and you don't think about saying "I love you." Say thank you for small contributions to enhance your day. These are all ways to say I love you.

So...for the month of February take the time and remember to tell your partner, children, parents, etc. some-

thing you like about them, something that makes them special to you.

While you are doing all the above don't forget the flowers and cards. They still rate pretty high on the list.

Remember, love really is all there is.

Thank you for allowing me to be here to serve you. Let me know your thoughts.

District 5 legislator,

Eunice Imogene Lambert
Gene Lambert
Legislator District 05
480-228-6569
P.O. Box 5905
Mesa, Arizona 85211
euniceilambert@gmail.com

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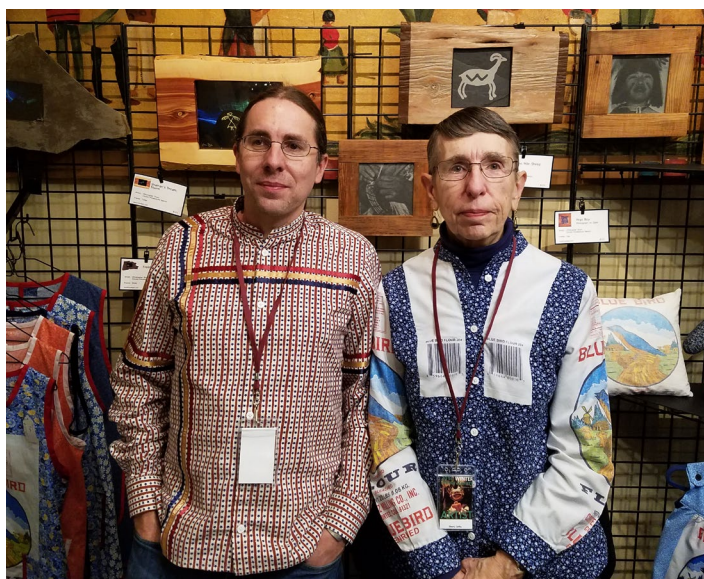
District 7 - Mark Johnson

Bozho nikanek,
(Hello friends)

On December 17, I had the opportunity to visit Santa Fe, New Mexico with my wife Rita, where we attended the Santa Fe Indian Market sponsored by the Southwestern Association for Indian Arts. While viewing the many excellent native artists' works, I had the pleasure of running into two Citizen Potawatomi Nation members who were displaying their many works of art and textiles.

Cathy and Christopher Short recently moved to Santa Fe from Arizona to pursue their artwork under their Lizard Light Productions company name. Cathy specializes in textile works made from Blue Bird Flour sacks and photography, and Christopher works with laser art and photography. Christopher was also recently featured on the BBC World Travel show talking about his Petroglyph Laser art. The story can be viewed at <http://cpn.news/LLBBC>.

As a reminder, the College Educational Summer Scholarship application period opens March 15 and closes June 15. With the new application process, students can apply via the student portal at portal.potawatomi.org. If you have questions, you can reach the CPN Department of Education through email



Christopher and Cathy Short

at college@potawatomi.org or by phone at 405-275-3121. The CPN Department of Education can also help in finding other scholarship opportunities outside of the tribe. Scholarships for vocational and technical studies are handled by the CPN

Employment and Training Department, they can be reached by telephone at 405-598-0797.

Once again, I would like to say what an honor it is to serve you as your District 7 representative. As always

give me a call and I will be happy to work with you on any questions you may have, or provide you with additional information you may need to access tribal benefits that you are entitled to. Please also take the time to give me a call or send me an email with your contact information so that I can keep you informed of the happenings within the Nation and District.

Migwetch / Thank You,

Mark Johnson / *Wisk Mtek*
(Strong as a Tree)
Representative, District 7
1565 Shaw Ave., Suite 202
Clovis, CA. 93611
(559) 351-0078 cell
Mark.Johnson@potawatomi.org

UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION WITH TRIBAL ROLLS

Is your address information updated with CPN Tribal Rolls? In the next year, the tribal government will examine population numbers across the U.S. for legislative redistricting. It is vital that we have your most up-to-date address information.

Please contact tribal rolls today and update your address information by calling (800) 880-9880.

POTAWATOMI GATHERING OF NATIONS BUS TRIP AUGUST 1-7, 2017

The Gathering will be hosted by Walpole Island First Nation in Wallaceburg, Ontario, Canada during August 2-5, 2017.

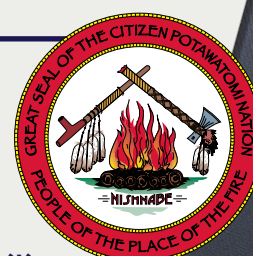
The Citizen Potawatomi Nation will provide free bus travel to the annual Gathering of Potawatomi Nations for tribal members and their immediate families.

A chartered bus will leave the Citizen Potawatomi Nation headquarters

**AT 1601 S. GORDON COOPER DRIVE IN SHAWNEE
6 A.M. ON TUESDAY, AUG. 1st, 2017**

and the bus will return home on Sunday, Aug. 6th.

The bus will arrive back in Shawnee the afternoon of Monday, Aug. 7th



PREPARE:

A \$50/passenger refundable deposit is required. Tribal members who attend the Gathering will be responsible for their own food, lodging, and incidentals expenses.

To reserve a seat on the bus or obtain more information, please contact Cathie Hanson at 275-3121 (extension 1434) or 800-880-9880 or at chanson@potawatomi.org.

IMPORTANT:

A current passport is mandatory. You must show your passport or passport card to board the bus at your departure point.

In Oklahoma, county clerk offices will accept applications. In Pottawatomie County, passport applications are Monday - Friday from 9 a.m.-11 a.m. and 1 p.m.-3 p.m.

In addition to the \$110 fee for a passport paid by money order or cash, the Pottawatomie County Clerk's office charges an additional \$25 cash fee. You will need to bring an original birth certificate, driver's license or state issued ID and are encouraged to call ahead to ensure you bring all the required documents and payment forms.

Limited seating available.
The deadline for reservations is 5 p.m. Friday, June 9th, 2017

MORE INFO: Walpole Island First Nation of Wallaceburg, Ontario will be hosting the Gathering this year.
facebook.com/PotawatomiGathering17



District 11 - Lisa Kraft

Blessings of being Potawatomi

Blessings can be like snowflakes in a snowstorm, falling all around you, but not truly seen until one lands on you. During the holidays, when I heard someone say, "have a blessed holiday" or "count your blessings" or "bless you," it was as if they were reminding me to slow down, reflect, and take stock. I was reminded in December how suddenly life can end and a lifetime of feelings can go unspoken. I was blessed to have my son by my side, alongside family, as we stood at my father's bedside when he left to be with God on December 12, 2016. I can honestly say I am a stronger, more independent woman because of him and am blessed to be his daughter.

My father was diagnosed with Stage 4 liver and lung cancer a week before he died. It was a shock to us all, especially my stepmom Cheryle. They had been married since I was 10, or almost 40 years. They were blessed in love and soul mates. They enjoyed date nights at our two casinos. A common subject my father and I talked about over the years is my role as a tribal legislator. He would listen, give me generational insight, and then say something funny for me to chew on. I will miss those spirited conversations more than I can express. For all of our tribal members who serve in a public capacity or politics (local, state, or federal), edu-

cate us and our children, provide us with nourishment as well as food for thought, provide the services that make our communities function, and pass along generational wisdom, you are a blessing to me!

My Potawatomi family is very large, rooted in Catholicism (as dad's three brothers and sister, Aunt Madge, grew up in St. Benedict's school in Shawnee and their parents at St. Mary's and St. Benedict's of Sacred Heart), and mostly all still live in Shawnee. My father, Patrick Eugene O'Connor, was a proud Potawatomi, so the apple did not fall far from the tree. His mother Ara Mae was active in our tribe's healthcare program and took my sister, Shanna, and I to powwows while growing up. She was probably one of the first in line to enroll us all back in 1989 when our tribe allowed descendants to become members.

Her father Andrew Jewitt O'Bright was also politically active in our tribe according to BIA records. My granddad, Patrick August O'Connor, a tribal member by family rather than eligibility, grew up around Sacred Heart. He served in the Army during World War II and instilled American pride in his four boys. My uncle Bobby, the oldest, served in the Air Force and has taught flying lessons in Shawnee for a lifetime. My father tried to enlist in the Navy as a frogman (Navy Seal) at 17, but was too young and grandma would not sign the form. Both of my uncles Jerry and Donnie enlisted in the Army National Guard during Vietnam. For all of our tribal members who serve in the military, serve in law enforcement, and serve as emergency responders, you and your families are a blessing to me!

The week my father was in ICU at St. Anthony's in Shawnee, the blessings poured into our family from everywhere. Our family was never without caring nurses, doctors, lifelong family friends and cousins, clergy and priests. The nurses at St. Anthony's became like family as they never once left the room without asking if there was anything they could do for the family or my father. For all of our tribal members who are in the healthcare profession, and my Aunt Becky, you are a blessing to me!

Ironically, one of the non-denominational clergy for St. Anthony's was a fellow "gear head" like my father. My father built one of the baddest custom hotrods out there today, appropriately named *Ole Black Betty*. He was blessed to be able to build things with so many intricate moving parts. His hand-built 1933 Ford Coupe is featured in the February



Conrad kissing Dad's eagle.

versity with a bronze statue of Saint Kateri Tekakwitha (Mohawk/Algonquian), the patron saint of the environment and American Indians.

Every Saturday before her feast day of July 14, the abbey celebrates St. Kateri with mass and a novena followed by a picnic and dancing. Over 300 people attended in 2016 and witnessed Abbot Lawrence blessing my father's sculpture representing St. Kateri. She lived over 350

pictures are very touching. Conrad would always hug and kiss the eagle goodbye and tell his Grand Patty that he loved him. For all of our tribal members who are artisans, naturalists, and stewards of animals, you are a blessing to me! You carry on the old and new traditions of Potawatomi art and give us beauty and reflection in this busy world. Your satirical art is equally engaging and your abstract thinking one of a kind. Your artistic lega-



Dad's 1933 Ford Coupe.

2017 issue of *Hot Rod* magazine with an online write-up back in October. For all those tribal members who can use their hands to build things of lasting worth and functionality, you are a blessing to me! The ability to see something, plan it out methodically, and actually use your hands to construct it is an amazing talent and gift to us all.

My father was also an exceptional artist with his wildlife paintings and bronze works being sold all around the world. My family is blessed to have the legacy he left us all in his images and art that can be gazed upon and touched. One of my prized possessions of my dad's is a very large oil painting of a mountain lion stalking its prey on the edge of a snowy overlook. He gifted me the painting many years ago. It hung in my father's studio for years, like an overseer, and something he was very proud of. Like him, I have it hanging where I look at it every day. For the larger community, he gifted St. Gregory's Abbey and Uni-

years ago and died at age 24. Despite her mistreatment as a child, she stood for the youth and taught them to rise above ridicule and injustice. For all of our tribal member youth, those who stand up for their rights, instructors of faith, those who help the suffering, and for the parents who love and nurture our tribal youth, you are a blessing to me!

As an artist, my father was a wildlife champion. His self-taught ability to sketch, paint, and sculpt animals and record them in their nature habitats, as detailed as in photographs, leaves us all with his gift of conservation. He was especially fond of birds and elephants. My favorite sculpture of dad's is his oversized bronze sculpture of the American bald eagle at the Oklahoma City Zoo. It was dedicated in 1989 for the conservation efforts of a local high school. As a parent, I took my son to the zoo often when he was growing up and always visited dad's art. Some pictures are very funny with Conrad pretending to ride the eagle in flight. Other

cies, be it art, music, dance, writing, or drama, will live on through the generations to spark new creativity, give us hope, and to remember each other.

In closing, I want to thank my great-aunt Joy (my grandma Ara Mae's sister) and uncle Eddie for visiting with us at dad's bedside. Uncle Eddie, Potawatomi by marriage, told me how much he enjoyed reading my columns and I will think of him each time I write one from now on.

He asked me, "Are you really always thinking Potawatomi?"

My reply was instinctive.

"Yes," I said, "because I am always thinking about my family - my entire Potawatomi family."

For this, I am truly blessed.

In honor and love of my father, Patrick Eugene O'Connor,

Lisa Kraft
Oklahoma Representative 11



Abbot Lawrence blessing St. Kateri.

Donna Sue Roberts

Norma Jean Goss, 85, passed away Sunday, June 26, 2016 at the White River Medical Center. She was born in Oklahoma on April 26, 1931. Norma was a member of the Eastern Star.

She was preceded in death by her parents: Elva and Della Swarb; her husband: L.D. Goss; daughter: Sharon Davis; and son: Larry Goss.

She is survived by daughters: Martha Esch and Lisa Branch; seven grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; a host of other relatives and dear friends.

A memorial service was held in Greers Ferry, Arkansas, on Friday, July 1, 2016.

Richard Bruce Hardin



Richard Bruce Hardin, 61, of Shawnee, died Sunday, Nov. 20, 2016, at his home.

He was born April 21, 1955, in Shawnee to Eric Bruce Hardin Jr. and Thelma Louise Tomlinson.

He was a 1973 graduate of Shawnee High School and attended Gordon Cooper Area Vocational Technical School.

On Oct. 19, 1990, he married Cindy Macsas in Las Vegas, Nevada.

He worked as a tool cutter grinder at Eaton Corporation, retiring in October after 37 years of service.

Richard received his Padi Open Water Certification, Shawnee High School Vocational Welding Certificate, three years, Gordon Cooper Machine Set-up, 60 hours on May 13, 1974; Gordon Cooper Machine Set-up, 72 hours on May 2, 1978; Gordon Cooper Machine Set-up, 30 hours on Dec. 13, 1978; Gordon Cooper Motorboat Tune-up, 30 hours on April 18, 1984; Eaton Machine Shop, Gordon Cooper, 20 hours in Feb. 1985; Eaton certificates – high standard of attendance, fixed gages, optical comparators, basic linear instruments, dial/digital indicators, geometric dimensioning and tolerancing, surface texture, blueprint reading and surface plate equipment.

Bruce enjoyed water skiing, scuba diving and motorsports.

He was preceded in death by his father: Eric Bruce Hardin Jr.; grandpar-

ents: Jack and Walsie Tomlinson and Eric Bruce Hardin Sr. and Blanche Hardin.

Survivors include his wife: Cindy Macsas-Hardin; daughters: Jade Hardin and Savannah Hardin-Terrell; his faithful German shepherd: Jackson; mother: Thelma Tomlinson-Hardin; and sister: Sharon Hardin-Hawkins.

Pallbearers were Darrell Fowler, Terry Snyder, Randy Sebring, Rick Wilson, Gerald Hill, Eric Glasgow and Frank Reece. Bruce was laid to rest at Resthaven Memorial Park on Nov. 23, 2016.

Ronald Navarre



Ronald Navarre, mostly known as “Sonny” was born on Jan. 31, 1939 to Emory and Virginia Herron Navarre.

He was preceded in death by his parents and two sisters: Wanda Scarbrough and Carolyn Whitney.

He was survived by, Elizabeth, his wife of 56 years, celebrated on July 9, 2016. Elizabeth was also known as “Bunny” having been born on Easter. He also was survived by his brother-in-law: Jesse Whitney; four nephews; and one niece.

Sonny grew up in the Harrah, Newalla, McLoud and Choctaw areas, sometimes all of them in one night as a teenager. Sonny became one of the most sought after painters in Oklahoma County. Known for being able to match new painting, and in some cases, paint over 45 years old, Sonny worked in both the residential and commercial world.

Sonny and Bunny were long time members of the Choctaw United Methodist Church. He served in many positions within the church, but none was more enjoyed than he and Bunny’s long time service to the youth of the church.

Sonny was also well known as a hunter and fisherman. One of his constant joys was going to Colorado each summer to fish for trout. In fact, several of the preacher’s kids of the ministers who served the Choctaw UMC learned how to hunt and fish under Sonny’s tutelage.

Bunny and Sonny were constant disciples of the Kan I Help You Sunday School Class. They were one of the

key members who were instrumental in developing the annual food drive to provide seasonal food stuffs to children in need identified by the counselors of the Choctaw Nicoma Park school system and two senior citizen living centers in Choctaw.

In Lieu of Flowers, Bunny would like donations to be made to the Choctaw UMC “KIHU Grocery & Clothing Mission Fund”.

William Wallace Martin



William Wallace (Wally) Martin, 74, of McPherson, Kansas, passed away at 2:35 a.m., Saturday, Jan. 7, 2017 peacefully surrounded by family at his home, Kansas.

William was born in Rossville, Kansas on June 14, 1942, a son of Nellie Irene (Gibson) and Paul Irvin Martin, Sr.

Wally attended elementary school in Rossville, McPherson Junior High School and graduated from McPherson High School, McPherson, Kansas in 1960. He honorably served in the United States Navy during Vietnam War and Desert Storm. While he was in the military, he was able to receive his business degree from University of Southern Illinois.

He was a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church McPherson, where he was a member of the Knights of Columbus, and served as Eucharistic Minister

He served in the U.S. Navy and was honorably discharged as a MCPO. He served in the Vietnam War and Desert Storm. He received Sixth Good Conduct Award, Navy Commendation Medal 3, Meritorious Unit Commendation 2, Coast Guard Meritorious Unit Commendation, Battle "E" Ribbon, Navy Achievement Medal 4, Sea Service Deployment Ribbon 5, Navy Expeditionary Medal, Enlisted Aviation Warfare Specialist, National Defense Service Medal 2, Navy Unit Commendation 3, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal 2, Southwest Asia Service Medal with two bronze stars, Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Service Medal, Marksman M-14 Rifle, Sharpshooter .38Cal.

Wally served his Country for 30 years in the United States Navy and retired as Master Chief Petty Officer. After his military career, he went to work for his brother Henry, at Moody Oil

Company for three years and then worked for ICS Industrial Chrome Specialist as a driver and sales person for five years, later he worked for MSI a cellular company that his brother Steve owned.

Wally was a member of the American Legion Post 24, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2715, and the Iron Angels. He was also a member of the Potawatomi Tribe in which he was very proud of. Wally enjoyed walking, vegetable gardening, working in his yard, playing softball, and spending time with his family and visiting with his friends.

Wally was united in marriage to Janice Abram on Oct. 29, 1965 at Gardner, Maine. The young couple established their first home together in Maine and in 1976 moved to Virginia. This union was blessed with the birth of a daughter Madalyn Irene. Wally was united in marriage to Karen Barrera on June 14, 1991 at Jacksonville, Florida. The couple made their first home together in McPherson. This union united Wally's daughter Madalyn and Karen's daughter Jennifer Lynn.

He is survived by his wife: Karen Martin, of McPherson; his daughters: Madalyn I Martin, of Virginia Beach, Virginia and Jennifer Lynn Avinger, of McPherson; his siblings: Mary Irene Hudson, of Topeka, Kansas, Pauline Bickford, of Maple Hill, Kansas, Henry Martin and his wife Carol, of McPherson, Steve Martin and his wife Deanne, of Hutchinson, Kansas, and C.D. Martin and his wife Diane, of McPherson; his three grandchildren: Anthony Avinger, Lila Paige, and Carter Leathers; many nieces, nephews, other relatives and a host of friends.

Wally was preceded in death by his parents, brothers: Tim Martin, Paul (Junior) Martin and Baby Boy Martin; and sister: Baby Girl Martin.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Thursday, Jan. 12, 2017 at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, McPherson, Kansas, with Fr. Hien Nguyen officiating. Military Honors were presented by members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2715 and American Legion Post 24 both of McPherson.

Graveside services followed at Rossville Cemetery, Rossville, Kansas.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to St. Joseph's Catholic Church and they can be sent in care of the Glidden - Ediger Funeral Home; 222 West Euclid Street; McPherson, Kansas 67460.

Submitting obituaries

To submit an obituary, please send a word document with **no more than 300 words**, a 300dpi photo and a contact phone number to hownikan@potawatomi.org.

Donna Sue Roberts



Donna Sue (Trousdale) Roberts, 68, of Shawnee, departed this earth and went to make magic in Heaven on Oct. 30, 2016.

Head cheerleader, child advocate, animal lover, fashionista and chief of fun and games for the entire Roberts family, Donna was born Dec. 23, 1947, to Clarence and Tava Trousdale, and welcomed into the family by her sister Barbara (Crowder).

After graduating from the University of Arkansas, she fell madly in love with Richard "Richie" Roberts and said "I do" to a marriage that spanned 45 years and was blessed with two daughters, Brooke "Sissy" Haddock, and Jordan "Jamma" Pope, along with Rich's children, Bruce Roberts, Julie McCarthy and Laurie Haynes.

Donna cherished her nine grandchildren who referred to her as "RoRo", "Grammy", and "Granny." Though her children and grandchildren were spread throughout the United States, she was constantly looking for ways to bring everyone together by planning fun family vacations and July birthday extravaganzas complete with sparklers and silly string.

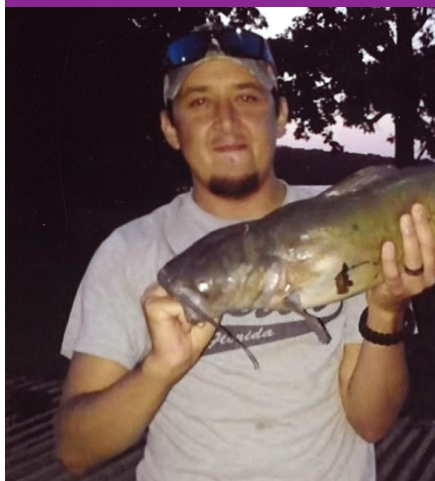
She was greeted in Heaven by her parents; uncle: Harold Trousdale; cousin: Bobby Trousdale; mother-in-law: Zella Roberts; brother-in-law: Gary Ray; and niece: Leigh Ray.

She will be joined in eternity again one day by her husband, five children and their spouses: Dana, Mike, Tony, Steve, and Chad; nine grandchildren; sister-in-law: Suzanne Ray; and niece: Lynn (Don) Muse.

The family wants to express its sincere gratitude to Heartland Hospice and CPN for all of their care and support in keeping Donna comfortable in her final weeks as she battled cancer.

A funeral mass was held on November 4 at St. Benedict's Catholic Church.

Edward O'Brien



Edward "Storm" O'Brien, V, of Shawnee, Oklahoma passed from this life Sunday, Dec. 11, 2016 in Shawnee.

He was born Aug. 12, 1990 to Edward "Shane", IV and Kimberly Kay (Baptiste) O'Brien in Shawnee.

Storm was raised and continued to live in Bethel Acres and Meeker and attended Bethel Public Schools.

Storm enjoyed playing video games, especially "Battlefield". He loved hunting, fishing and motorcycles. Storm loved playing basketball and was a passionate fan of OSU football and Thunder basketball. He especially enjoyed water sports and going to Lake Eufaula, but his greatest enjoyment was going to Destin and Panama City, Florida to go deep sea fishing.

Storm was happiest with family and friends. Always laughing and joking, you couldn't help but be happy as well, because he had such an infectious personality. His personality definitely shined through when surrounded by his nieces and nephew. He lived every minute of his 26 years to the fullest.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents: LeRoy and Jody Baptiste and Sue Melot; great-grandparents: Tommy Bowen, Junior O'Brien, Neoma Baptiste and Clara Fields.

Those left to cherish his memory are his parents: Kim and Don Melot of Shawnee and Shane and Angel O'Brien of Meeker; two brothers and two sisters-in-laws: Heath and Rachel Melot of Choctaw and Colt and Monica Melot of McCloud; two sisters: Brianna O'Brien and Brooklynn O'Brien, both of Meeker; grandparents: Kathy Baptiste of Shawnee, Herbert Melot of Shawnee, Ed and Sonja O'Brien of Meeker and Joann Ring of Shawnee; great-grandmas: Dorothy O'Brien of Sparks and Bobbie Bowen of Meeker; and many

loving friends, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and other extended family.

Services were held on Friday, Dec. 16, 2016 at Life Church in Shawnee with Pastor Ben Shanahan and Pastor Tyler Holt of Life Church officiating. Burial followed at Calvary Cemetery under the direction of Cooper Funeral Home of Tecumseh.

Bobby Shane Treat



Bobby Shane Treat 51, of Wynnewood passed from this life to his new life on Saturday, Dec. 24, 2016 in Ada at Chickasaw Nations Medical Center.

Services were held Wednesday, Dec. 28, 2016 at Walker Funeral Service Chapel with Ellis Gregg officiating.

Bobby Shane was born Oct. 3, 1965 in Shawnee, Oklahoma to Larry O. and Phyllis K. Treat.

He was a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and worked as a welder until his health became an issue.

Bobby Shane loved working with horses and cows. He loved riding motorcycles and playing sports. He enjoyed gardening. He loved to fish and be around his nephews, nieces, grandbaby, family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents: Larry O. Treat and Phyllis K. Treat; and brother: Stacey Len Treat.

Survivors left to keep his memories alive are his siblings: Larry S. Treat of Shawnee, Stephanie Clutter of Shawnee, Susan Gregg and husband Bryan of Shawnee; his friend & partner: Tammie Whitney; nephews and nieces: Larry Michael Treat and wife Jennifer Treat, Jonathan Treat and Rosi, Kevin Treat and Kristin, Jacob Treat and Shanna, Hunter Treat, Shane Clutter and LeeAnn, Derek Clutter and Kathy, Tabitha Sandoval and Herman, Dusti Gray and Jason, Brooke Treat, Kaitlyn Gregg and Caleb Gregg; and several great nieces and nephews.

The family request that in lieu of flowers, please make a contribution to the American Cancer Society.

Ermyl George Sager



Ermyl 'Annette' George Sager, 53, of Trenton, Missouri, died on Nov. 28, 2016 at Liberty Hospital, Liberty, Missouri. Mrs. Sager was born in Topeka, Kansas on July 23, 1963, the daughter of Jonny and Clara Wade George.

The family moved from Silver Lake, Kansas to Trenton in November of 1964 where she attended school, graduating from high school in 1981. She attended North Central Missouri College and received her Associate in Arts Degree from Maple Woods Community College. Her bachelor's degree was from Truman State University of Kirksville, Missouri. Her master's degree was from Northwest Missouri State University. She went on to teach for 27 years and was a much loved kindergarten teacher.

Annette married Dennis Sager on May 29, 1982. After a short stay in Sweet Springs, Missouri, they lived in Excelsior Springs, Missouri. In 1986, they moved back to Trenton to make their home. They have two sons: Brian, who teaches high school science in Maysville, Missouri and Christopher who is in a post grad physical therapy program in Bolivar, Missouri.

At her request, no services were held. The Pleasant View R-6 School District in Trenton, held a balloon launch in her honor on Dec. 2, 2016.

Besides her husband, sons and parents, she is survived by one brother: Wade (Sally) George of Kirksville, Missouri; three sisters: Renee George of Trenton, Robin (Charlie) Patrick of Cosby, Missouri, and Joy (Steve) Jackson of Trenton.

Annette was a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. She was a direct descendent of the Vieux Family.

Submitting obituaries

To submit an obituary, please send a word document with **no more than 300 words**, a 300dpi photo and a contact phone number to hownikan@potawatomi.org.

CPN burial assistance through Tribal Rolls

The \$2,000 CPN Burial Assistance Fund is automatically available to all enrolled CPN members. You may fill out a burial assistance fund form if you would like for us to keep it on file in case of any change in resolutions.

Please note: Once a CPN Tribal member has passed, the Tribal Rolls office must

be notified in order for CPN to provide burial funding. Information and instructions for the burial process will be sent to the next of kin and will be discussed then.

For more information please call Tribal Rolls at 405-878-5835 or email CClark@Potawatomi.org.